

PACIFIC CITIZEN



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Report 1,547 Purple Hearts Awarded Men of Famed 100th Battalion Since Salerno

21 Distinguished Service Crosses, 73 Silver Stars, 96 Bronze Stars Won by Unit's Personnel; Two Awards from Italian Government Also Listed

WITH THE SIXTH ARMY GROUP, FRANCE—Infantrymen of the now-famous 100th Infantry Battalion of the 442nd (Japanese American) Combat Team have been awarded more than 1,547 Purple Hearts and Oak Leaf Clusters for wounds received in battle since the unit received its "baptism of fire" in the Italian campaign in September, 1943, in the mountains above Salerno.

Men of the 100th Infantry Battalion have also received 21 Distinguished Service Crosses, six Legions of Merit, 73 Silver Stars, seven Soldier's Medals, 96 Bronze Stars, 16 Division Citations, two awards from the Italian government and the War Department Distinguished Unit Citation.

Today the 100th Infantry Battalion is writing another thrilling chapter in its already massive book of courageous action. In a sector of the formidable barrier that separates France from Italy—250 miles of jagged mountain ridges and snow-capped peaks—this battalion, one of the most famous in American military history, is engaged in hazardous mountain warfare.

Along the Franco-Italian frontier, part of Lieut. Gen. Jacob L. Devers' Sixth Army Group front (the Sixth Army Group is composed of the U. S. Seventh Army and the French First Army), wary Nisei patrols probe their way into German defenses with a skill born out of long combat experience. Their buddies are well entrenched in defensive positions, ready for enemy counter-thrusts or patrols. In the shadows of towering cliffs, German ambush traps are dealt with in deadly thoroughness.

When the 100th Infantry Bat-

alion went into action in Italy it was composed of men of Japanese ancestry from the Hawaiian Islands. Today it is made up of Japanese Americans from Hawaii and the mainland United States.

Appeals Court Upholds Verdict In Draft Cases

Fujii Case Decision Will Prevail in 62 Other Appeals

DENVER — Conviction of 63 Japanese Americans from the Heart Mountain, Wyo. relocation center for refusal to report for military induction was upheld on March 12 by the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals.

The 63 men had been found guilty in Federal court at Cheyenne, Wyo., by Judge T. Blake Kennedy and sentenced to three years imprisonment.

Counsel for both sides had agreed the findings in the case of Shigeru Fujii, who appealed the conviction, would prevail in the other 62 appeals.

Fujii insisted he was loyal to the United States and claimed his confinement in a war relocation center after being evacuated from the West Coast was a violation of his constitutional rights.

Judge Walter H. Huxman said in the appeals court decision that Fujii should have reported for induction and then asked the courts for a writ of habeas corpus.

504 Nisei from WRA Centers Listed Casualties

WASHINGTON — One hundred and thirteen American soldiers of Japanese ancestry with next of kin in the war relocation centers are listed as killed in action, the WRA announced last week.

In statistics compiled as of Feb. 24, the WRA reported that 375 relocation soldiers had been wounded and 16 were missing. Minidoka had the largest number killed with 23, while Rohwer listed 17 gold stars.

The list does not include casualties suffered by non-evacuees or Japanese Americans from Hawaii.

MISSING NISEI NOW PRISONER IN NAZI CAMP

OGDEN, Utah — Pfc. George Funai, 29, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kametaro Funai of Ogden, is a prisoner of war in Germany, according to word received this week from the War Department.

Pfc. Funai, who has three brothers and a brother-in-law in service, was reported missing in action on Dec. 5 in France.

The Funai family resided at Bothell, Wash., before the evacuation.

National Commander Of Legion Praises Hood River Action

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. — National American Legion Commander Edward N. Scheiberling on March 8 lauded the action of the Hood River, Ore., post in restoring the names of 15 Japanese American servicemen to the Hood River honor roll.

Scheiberling said the Oregon post's decision to reinstate the names showed the Legionnaires were "honest enough to admit a mistake and big enough to correct it."

"By their decision they have strengthened the American Legion position against bigotry and race hatred," he said.

Japanese American Soldier Liberated By Soviet Forces

Radio reports heard in Salt Lake City on March 15 indicated that an American soldier of Japanese ancestry was among American prisoners of war in German prison camps who have been liberated by advancing Red Army forces on the Eastern Front.

The report listed "Staff Sgt. Hisae Shimamatsu" among the prisoners of war freed by the Soviet Army.

Army Reveals Combat Team Of Japanese Americans Now Part of 44th Artillery Group

Brig. Gen. Ralph Topin Has High Praise for Nisei Soldiers in His Command; 44th Brigade Has Seen Action in North Africa, Sardinia, Corsica

WITH THE SIXTH ARMY GROUP, FRANCE—"Magnificent soldiers—among the very best," is the way Brigadier General Ralph C. Tobin, commanding general of the 44th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Brigade, described the members of the 442nd Japanese American Combat Team who are now a part of his command.

This famed fighting organization whose entire enlisted personnel and many of its officers are Americans of Japanese ancestry who volunteered to fight

Fire Damages Japanese Hall In Valley City

Evacuee Properties In Delano Damaged In Second Fire

DELANO, Calif. — The second serious fire to destroy property of evacuees of Japanese ancestry in two weeks in Delano seriously damaged the Japanese Association school on Eighth Avenue on March 11.

The loss was estimated at \$4,000. Two weeks ago fire destroyed the Japanese Buddhist church in Delano. Cause of the two fires was not determined.

Both buildings had been unused since the evacuation.

The Japanese school was gutted by the blaze which destroyed the roof of the building. However, prompt action by Delano's volunteer firemen saved adjoining business buildings and residences.

Although the firemen responded immediately to the alarm, the wooden frame structure was ablaze before the arrival of firemen and equipment.

SOLDIER DIGS UP \$12,000 FROM DELANO GARAGE

DELANO, Calif. — Pvt. Ernest Takaki, former Delano druggist now serving in the U. S. Army in Massachusetts, can be listed among GIs to whom \$50 a month is pretty small potatoes, it was reported here.

Pvt. Takaki visited Delano one day last week on furlough. Accompanied by Police Chief Lee Martin he proceeded to a garage behind the West Side Drug Store which he sold before being evacuated.

Takaki got a pick and crowbar and went to work on the cement floor. From underneath the cracked cement he lifted a box, and from the box, according to Chief Martin, he took out \$12,000 in large bills.

Martin declared he would not have believed it if he had not seen it with his own eyes.

Eight Japanese Americans Killed, Eight Wounded in Action on European Front

WASHINGTON—The War Department this week announced the names of eight American soldiers of Japanese ancestry killed, eight wounded and four prisoners of war in Germany. All casualties were reported from the European theatre of operations.

The casualties listed by the War Department included:

Wounded in Action

- WATANABE, Pfc. Tom T.—Mrs. Kaneko H. Watanabe, mother, 222-7-B, Poston, Ariz.
- TAKASHIMA, Pvt. Noboru—Mrs. Tsume Takashima, Rt. 1, Box 569, Chula Vista, Calif.
- ISHIGAKI, Pvt. Shigehiko S.—Mrs. Shin Ishigaki, mother, 9E-11C, Amache, Colo.
- TERASAKI, Pfc. Harry J.—George G. Terasaki, father, Lr Jara, Colo.
- KAZUOKA, Pfc. Frank, Jr.—Frank Kazuoka, Sr., 119½ No. First St., Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- ISHIDA, Pvt. Masaru—Arata Shin Ishida, father, Topaz, Utah.
- ARASHIRO, Pfc. Kenneth K.—Mrs. Uto Arashiro, mother, Hanapepe, Kauai, T. H.
- YANO, Pfc. Francis K.—Sadaki Yano, father, 566 North King St., Honolulu, T. H.

Killed in Action

- TANAKA, Pfc. John Y.—Tsunetaro Tanaka, father, 3635 Marion St., Denver, Colo.
- OKIDA, Pvt. Katsu—Mrs. Some Okida, mother, Amache, Colo.
- MITANI, Pfc. Kazuo—George Mitani, father, 145 East 2nd South St., Salt Lake City, Utah.
- KONDO, Pfc. Herbert Y.—James S. Kondo, father, Koloa, Kauai, T. H.
- MIURA, Tech. 5th Gr. Larry N.—Miss Jean T. Miura, sister, Box 242, Ewa, Oahu.
- TOMITA, Pfc. Nobuaki—Teruaki Tomita, brother, Lanai City, Maui, T. H.
- KURATA, 2nd Lieut. Minoru—Mrs. Fusayo Kurata, mother, Haina, T. H.
- YOSHIHARA, Pvt. Makoto—Mrs. Hideno Yoshihara, mother, Gila River WRA center, Rivers, Ariz.

Prisoners of War in Germany

- OKITSU, Pfc. Jou—Eikichi Okitsu, father, Poston, Ariz.
- HORIBA, Pfc. Kay I.—Mrs. Buheiji Fujimoto, friend, Manana, Calif.
- NAKAMINE, Pvt. Kotaro R.—Pvt. Kosaburo Nakamine, brother, Camp Blanding, Fla.
- YONEZAWA, Pfc. Kaoru—Gonzo Yonezawa, father, 2773 Waiialae Rd., Honolulu.

Sgt. Ben Kuroki Reported In Action on Pacific Front

OMAHA, Neb.—Tech. Sgt. Ben Kuroki, Japanese American veteran of 30 heavy combat missions in the Mediterranean and European war theatres, is now in action with U. S. Army Air Forces "somewhere in the Marianas," according to the World-Herald.

Sgt. Kuroki, turret gunner on a B-24 Liberator on the famous first raid on Ploesti, is a native of Hershey, Neb.

He is believed to be the first Japanese American to serve in combat with the Air Forces in the Pacific war.

The World-Herald quoted portions of a letter from Sgt. Kuroki to C. F. Mulvihill, judge advocate of an Omaha VFW post.

Noting that he was now in the Pacific theatre where the war is

against the Japanese enemy, Sgt. Kuroki said:

"I had to be careful not to go walking in my sleep, or some yardbird would take a couple of shots at me."

Winner of two Distinguished Flying Crosses and an Air Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters for his services as a Liberator gunner against the Germans, Sgt. Kuroki hinted that he was participating in U. S. Air Force operations against the Japanese home islands in the letter quoted by the World-Herald:

"I'm sure that if more people could see the actual tragedies on the battlefronts they would be resolved to make this the last war. . . . I must concentrate on dropping some 'roses' on Tokyo Rose."

our country's enemies are now guarding the Franco-Italian frontier high up in the Maritime Alps of Southeastern France. After distinguishing themselves in the Fifth Army push north of Rome to and across the Arno River in Italy, these American soldiers participated in the Seventh Army's drive through the Vosges Mountains of Northeastern France. It was during this historic break-through that the Japanese Americans rescued the now famous Lost Battalion of this war after the Germans had isolated them for over a week. Their battle honors include two Presidential Distinguished Unit Citations, one for its 100th Battalion's actions in Italy and the other for the Task Force which broke through several German Lines of resistance in Northern France.

"The men always appear happy, yet quietly dignified. They give the impression that they are over here for a definite task, and that they don't expect to go home until the war is won," General Tobin added. "At hospitals, I have noticed that the men are eager to return to their unit; their morale is high and their spirit inspiring. They are grand soldiers."

And General Tobin ought to know exemplary soldiers when he sees them, for he was the commanding officer of the famous 107th (7th New York City) Regiment of the New York National Guard for 13 years. He recalls with pride that over 3800 enlisted men who served in his regiment have won commissions in this war, a record probably unequalled by any other outfit of comparable size.

Although he is not a professional soldier, General Tobin has spent much of his 54 years in uniform. As a private, he served with the 7th Regiment, now designated the 107th, along the Mexican border. He was a Sergeant with a machine gun company in the last war, winning a battlefield commission as a Second Lieutenant in 1918. After the Armistice, he remained with the National Guard Unit. He was instrumental in building up the outstanding record of the New York City artillery regiment.

Colonel Tobin was promoted to the rank of Brigadier General on July 19, 1942.

Assigned to command the 44th A.A.A. Brigade, his unit landed at Oran, North Africa, May 12, 1943. They served at Constantine, Ferryville, Phillipville, Casablanca, and Algiers. General Tobin's command was responsible for the anti-aircraft defense of North Africa from Bizerte to Oran.

In July, 1944, the Brigade was transferred to Sardinia. One month later, they were in Corsica. Last November, they were sent to Southern France. Until their present assignment, they had always functioned as an anti-aircraft artillery unit. Now, they are serving as infantrymen.

Four Men to Face Trial April 16 in Placer County Case

AUBURN, Calif. — Superior Court Judge Lowell Sparks on March 13 ordered four men held for trial April 16 on charges of attempting to dynamite a packing shed on the property of Sumio Doi, Japanese American farmer.

Verdict on Validity of Army Individual Exclusion Orders Postponed by Federal Judge

Judge Hall Believes Cases Involve Rights Of Every American

LOS ANGELES—After listening to arguments by A.C.L.U. and government attorneys last week, Judge Peirson M. Hall of the Federal District Court at Los Angeles postponed for decision the question of the constitutionality of Individual Military Exclusion Orders against persons of Japanese descent. In the course of the cases, Judge Hall stated that they were of great importance, explaining, "although the persons whose rights are involved in these cases are of the Japanese race, they involve the rights of every American." To this statement of Judge Hall, A.C.L.U. counsel, A. L. Wirin countered: "This is precisely why the A.C.L.U. is concerned about these cases. Long ago we have learned that unless the weakest member of our community—the poor, the defenseless, the victims of race prejudice—are fully protected, the rights of all are equally in danger."

Judge Hall, indicated, however, that he could not determine the wisdom of the military orders: that we are in a total war, and that we must rely upon the judgment of the military authorities in dealing with potential dangers from espionage and sabotage.

The foregoing took place on the occasion of the injunction suits filed by Elmer Yamamoto, Los Angeles attorney, Dr. George Ochikubo, Oakland dentist, and Kiyoshi Shigekawa, San Pedro fisherman, against Major General H. C. Pratt, Commanding General of the Western Defense Command, seeking an injunction against the enforcement of Individual Exclusion Orders issued by the Western Defense Command against them.

Before hearing the oral arguments, Judge Hall directed Brig. Gen. William H. Wilbur to appear once more as a witness for the purpose of testifying concerning the use of force by the military authorities, first in the general evacuation and now in connection with Individual Exclusion Orders. Gen. Wilbur testified that no force was used in the general exclusion of persons of Japanese descent because they cooperated with the military authorities in preventing violence. He paid special tribute to the Japanese American Citizens League, stating that that organization had especially cooperated with the military authorities. On a prior occasion in the course of the trial, Gen. Wilbur had testified that the J.A.C.L. had contested the evacuation in briefs before the Supreme Court of the United States.

Chief stress in the legal argument of the A.C.L.U. attorneys before Judge Hall was that the Individual Exclusion Procedure enforced by the military authorities was both unconstitutional and unfair, in that subjects of the Exclusion Orders were not given an opportunity to cross examine witnesses furnishing information against them; and were not furnished with the sources of the information relied upon by the military authorities in issuing the Exclusion Orders against them. These according to the A.C.L.U. attorneys deprived persons of "due process of law" as guaranteed by the Fifth Amendment of the Bill of Rights to the United States Constitution.

The major point of the case was thus stated by the A.C.L.U. attorney: "It cannot be the law (and if it were the constitution would not permit it to be the law) that:

(1) A soldier, admittedly subject to Army jurisdiction, has rights to a fair hearing which the citizen civilian ordinarily not subject to Army jurisdiction, does not have under the Individual Exclusion Procedure enforced against American citizens of Japanese descent by the Western Defense Command.

(2) A person at the point of gravest danger and emergency, as for example at Iwo, Coblentz or Tokyo or Berlin, (in an air raid) who is a member of the armed forces, is entitled to phases of due process for the slightest infraction of army regulations, while a citizen of Los Angeles is not.

(3) A citizen of the United States is not entitled in Los Angeles to what is accorded the re-

sident—citizen or alien—of the Hawaiian Islands, where formal martial law has been declared, and the military danger is admittedly greater than it is in Los Angeles.

(4) A citizen of the United States in Los Angeles is not entitled, before ordered excluded, to a hearing as fair and as full as enemy nationals, of American military government of occupation, at Rome or Coblentz.

The evidence in the cases disclosed that all of the Nisei had been cleared by the War Relocation Authority as loyal; and that the Western Defense Command had refused to accept the recommendations of the War Relocation Authority. Of Elmer Yamamoto, in granting him leave clearance from the War Relocation Center, at Poston it was said:

"The applicant answered fully and freely all questions concerning the history and purpose of the organizations he was affiliated with, and the details of his affiliation. . . From the applicant's demeanor in this interview and from the personal knowledge which the members of the board had of his work during his presence on the Project, we are convinced that his answers are truthful and honest. The applicant has tried very earnestly to volunteer his services to the U. S. Army, and we believe that these efforts were completely sincere. There is no evidence to suggest that the applicant has been or will be other than an actively loyal and constructive citizen of the U. S. We recommend that leave clearance be granted."

Of Kiyoshi Shigekawa, the W.R.A. said that the Army Intelligence Reports about him were "unfair and unjustified" and recommended leave clearance.

Of Dr. George Ochikubo, the W.R.A. hearing board reported his "project record in community leadership on Community Council has been excellent. Has been elected chairman of the last two Councils. Would like to do dental work in the Army but willing to serve in any capacity if drafted. . . Indicates a strong desire to be American and states distaste for things Japanese."

In the opinion of the Southern California branch of the A.C.L.U. the cases are well chosen to test the authority of the military to make Individual Exclusion Orders against persons of Japanese descent generally. According to the A.C.L.U. the military exclusion orders in the case of each one of the Nisei was "unreasonable" and without any support in the facts.

Judge Wolfe Inducts New Topaz Council

TOPAZ, Utah — Chief Justice James H. Wolfe of the Utah Supreme Court, speaking at induction ceremonies for newly-elected councilmen at the Topaz relocation center, praised the conduct of residents of the Topaz camp and urged the evacuees to return to normal lives in outside communities.

After administering the oath of office to the 42 new councilmen in Topaz's civic auditorium, Judge Wolfe urged them to cooperate with the WRA in meeting problems of resettlement for the nearly 6000 persons still remaining in the center.

"The people of the center are deserving of the highest praise for their competent management of their internal affairs and in their cooperation with the administration in the preservation of law and order," Judge Wolfe declared.

"It is almost unbelievable that a whole people could be uprooted from their homes, from their businesses, suffer interruption to their family life, come to an entirely strange place, a place of isolation and many discomforts, and yet for a period of over two years have no serious outbreak of disorder. It speaks well for your restraint, your patience, your courage, your citizenship. You have kept alive democratic principles among yourselves," the chief justice added.

Judge Wolfe pointed out that the conduct of the evacuees and their soldier sons has opened the way for their public acceptance outside the centers.

Nisei Cooks Carry Hot Food To Front-Line Combat Troops

6th ARMY GROUP, FRANCE — Cooks of the 442nd Japanese American Combat Team in Lt. Gen. Jacob L. Devers' 6th Army Group, know from experience that serving front-line infantrymen means more than cooking a meal and then shouting "Come and get it!" It sometimes means carrying prepared food to the fighters.

Field kitchens were left five miles to the rear when a battalion of Japanese Americans attached to the 36th "Texas" Division took Hill 617 near Bruyeres, during the Seventh Army's October push through the Vosges mountains of Northeastern France. Tired warriors prepared to open cold rations. Then came word that mess sergeants had recruited cooks of the battalion into a carrying party and that a hot meal was on its way. The perilous hike between kitchen range and front-line took almost three hours. But the food, in special containers, was piping

hot when the volunteer carriers reached the hungry men.

Among those in the carrying party were S/Sgts. Isamu Tanabe, Salt Lake City, Utah, and Joseph S. Yamamoto, Salinas, California; Sergeants Yoshikazu Ibara, Wailuku, Maui, Roy I. Tsuya, Lihue, Kauai, both of Territorial Hawaii, Saburo Sugawara, Sebastopol, California, and Frank Dobashi, San Francisco, California; Corporals Jun Mikami, of Gary Owen, Montana, Masaru Kotake, Portland, Oregon, Ronald M. Oba, Aiea, Oahu, Hawaii, and Yoshio Kawamura, Sacramento, California; Pfc. King Tsuchiya, Denver, Colorado, Frank M. Yoshida, Los Angeles, California, George Minobe, Hollywood, California, and Robert J. Kubota, of Waipahu, Oahu.

In order to keep all available men on the line, these cooks often act as guards to escort prisoners to the rear. They also assist in evacuating wounded to safety.

Anti-Evacuee Group Demands Resignation of WRA Director

Will Seek Amendment To Constitution for Deportation of Nisei

GRESHAM, Ore. — Resignation or dismissal of Dillon S. Myer as national director of the War Relocation Authority was demanded in a resolution passed at a mass meeting held here on March 13 to protest the return of Americans of Japanese ancestry to farms in the Gresham area.

The resolution charged that Myer and his associates in the WRA have been "neither wise nor patriotic" in handling resettlement of Japanese Americans on the West Coast. Secretary of Interior Ickes is asked to dismiss Myer if he does not resign.

The sponsor of the meeting, the Oregon Property Owners' Protective League (formerly known as Oregon Anti-Japanese, Inc.), announced it had employed A. E. McCroskey, Seattle, to head a campaign seeking a constitutional amendment to exile all persons of Japanese ancestry from the United States.

(A leading member of the Oregon Property Owners Protective League, Dale Bergh of Boring, was recently found guilty in Clackamas county circuit court of encroachment upon the property of a Japanese American evacuee. Bergh recently represented the OPOPL in hearings in the Oregon state legislature on a memorial to Congress demanding the deportation of "disloyal" persons of Japanese ancestry.)

McCroskey told persons attending the mass meeting that the OPOPL planned to expand throughout the country. A campaign to enroll members is now being pushed in the Gresham area.

GRESHAM GROUP ASKS FAIR PLAY FOR EVACUEES

GRESHAM, Ore.—A meeting of citizens of the Gresham area to hear speakers supporting fair play on the question of returning Americans of Japanese ancestry was scheduled to be held at Gresham union high school this week.

The meeting was being sponsored by a citizens committee, headed by the Rev. John L. Magoon, pastor of the Gresham Bethel Baptist church. Among those scheduled to speak were Former Governor Charles A. Sprague, E. B. McNaughton, prominent Portland banker, and Harold S. Fister, area supervisor of the WRA.

Dan M. McDade, who was also scheduled to speak, announced earlier in the week that he would not appear at the meeting. McDade, national vice-commander of the American Legion, declared that he had revised his decision to speak at the meeting because of the attitude of the Gresham Post No. 30 of the American Legion which had publicly proclaimed a "hands-off" policy on the issue regarding the return of Japanese American evacuees.

Five Nisei Girls Declare Springfield Plan Is Failure

SPRINGFIELD, Mass.—Five Japanese American evacuee girls declared last week that they considered the "Springfield Plan" a failure and announced they were leaving the city, the United Press reported.

The girls cited the "unfriendly" attitude of the AFL Central Labor council, which opposed proposals to make Springfield a center for resettling evacuees.

One AFL official stated: "We'll have a Japanese mayor in Springfield in fifteen years if these people are allowed to come here."

Segregee Bloc Broken Up at Tule Lake Camp

Held Virtual Control Of Center, Biddle Testifies at Hearings

WASHINGTON — Internees at the Tule Lake segregation center virtual controlled the camp late last year and created "quite a serious situation," Attorney General Francis Biddle testified before the House Appropriations committee in January, it was revealed this week when published transcripts of the hearings were released.

Biddle declared "the Japs were practically running the camp," according to testimony quoted by the United Press.

Biddle declared Jack Burling, Department of Justice representative, discovered the situation when he was sent out to administer the new law providing for expatriation of United States citizens.

"He found out who the leaders were and picked off the first 80 expatriates and called them out and put them in some of our internment camps, which at once broke up that situation," Biddle said.

He told the committee the matter had not been reported or made public.

"We have not emphasized it," Biddle said, "because we are trying to get it smoothly worked out."

The Attorney General said his office had received 5000 applications for expatriation.

He predicted that in spite of the Supreme Court decision prohibiting further exclusion of loyal Japanese Americans from the West Coast, many of the evacuees will remain in relocation camps.

"They are afraid to go home," Biddle said. "There has not been a great deal of unfavorable reaction on the West Coast, but there has been a little."

Biddle declared the relocation program as a whole was working out "very satisfactorily."

Sgt. Ito Saves Five Wounded Nisei Soldiers

GI from Chicago Goes To Aid of Men Under Enemy Fire

WITH THE SIXTH ARMY GROUP, FRANCE — Staff Sergeant David M. Ito, a member of a rifle company of the 442nd Japanese American Combat Team now fighting in France, saved five wounded soldiers while under an enemy artillery barrage.

During the Seventh Army drive through the wooded Vosges Mountains of Northeastern France, the Combat Team was battling its way to the rescue of the Lost "Texas" Battalion. For over a week, this group from the 36th Division was cut off by a tight German encirclement in the dark forest near Bruyeres.

In the bitter fighting that followed, five men from Sergeant Ito's squad were seriously wounded by a heavy enemy artillery barrage. Without thinking of his own personal safety, the Chicago sergeant quickly ran to their aid. Still under the fierce German shelling, he rendered first aid to all five of the injured men.

Realizing that the patients would have to be evacuated immediately, he called for help from a passing rifleman. The two then made trips for a distance of 50 yards to where litter squads could safely evacuate the patients.

The Japanese American sergeant fought with his unit in Italy before participating in the French campaign. They drove with the famed 34th "Red Bull" Division in their sweep from north of Rome to and across the River Arno.

Sergeant Ito lists his home address as 1428 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois.

Youths Admit They Set Fire to Homes On Vashon Island

SEATTLE — Harold Stephen Burton, 22, a farmhand, was charged here on March 1 with setting fire to four homes on Vashon Island in Puget Sound.

Two other youths, 16 and 17 years of age, also confessed their participation in setting afire the four vacant homes, three of which were owned by evacuees of Japanese ancestry and the other a Caucasian.

Two of the homes were burned on Jan. 27 and two on Feb. 8.

The Miyoshi home was reported to have been completely destroyed by fire, according to a WRA official who visited Vashon Island.

In confessing their part in setting the fires, the youths insisted that the fact that persons of Japanese ancestry owned three of the homes was "incidental." The youths declared they had set fire to the homes "just for the thrill."

It was reported that there had been no agitation against Japanese Americans on the part of Vashon Island residents. The Re-member Pearl Harbor League of Auburn, Wash., was declared to have attempted to organize a chapter on Vashon Island but found only lukewarm sentiment against the evacuees and was unable to get enough signatures to their petition to warrant further activity.

Bronx Student Says Coast Racists Disgrace America

NEW YORK — A 14-year old Bronx student who protested discriminatory acts against Americans of Japanese ancestry on the West Coast was the recipient of one of the daily war stamp awards given by the newspaper, PM, to readers under 16 years of age.

Fourteen-year old Richard Milton wrote to PM:

"I believe that the people of Hood River valley and the other two spots (Auburn and Newcastle in Placer County, Calif., and the White River Valley in Washington) are a disgrace to the U.S.A."

"Many of those Japanese Americans fought in the war and some of them even wounded have come back and be threatened by the people they fought for. Those Japanese Americans are better citizens than those people, if you ask my opinion. The people of Hood River Valley ought to be ashamed of themselves."

Pasadena Police Seek Vandals



ALTADENA, Calif.—George Minaki, 24, and Caltech Professor Dr. Louis Pauling, for whom Minaki works, were the objects of the protest at left painted on the garage door of Pauling's home in Altadena. The incident was one of three instances of anti- evacuee vandalism in the Pasadena area last week. Dr. Pauling also received a threatening note which has been turned over to the FBI.—Photo by Acme.

Vandalism Aimed at Evacuees Reported in Pasadena Area

Threatening Letter Received by Employer Of Nisei Gardener

PASADENA, Calif.—Pasadena authorities this week were hunting persons guilty of vandalism directed against returned evacuees of Japanese ancestry.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation was investigating, meanwhile, a threatening note received by Dr. Linus Pauling of Altadena, research expert in explosives chemistry at California Institute of Technology, in connection with his hiring of a Japanese American gardener.

A crudely-painted Rising Sun Flag with the inscription, "remember Pearl Harbor," was discovered on a handball court wall at the Pasadena Junior College campus on March 7. Two Nisei are enrolled at the school which was the first West Coast educational institution to register a Japanese American student since the evacuation.

Detective Ed Fleck of the Pasadena police said the work apparently had been done by the same person who wrote a similar inscription on the garage door at the home of Dr. Pauling and a wall on the property of Mrs. Marjorie F. Gooding. A Nisei student is staying at the Gooding home.

Contents of the threatening note received by Dr. Pauling, who was recently announced as the co-developer of oxypolygelatin, a blood plasma substitute, were not disclosed by Dr. Pauling or by FBI agents on the case, who said revelations of the exact nature of the missive might hamper their efforts to learn who sent it.

The note, received by mail, was described as the second warning to Dr. Pauling in four days. On March 5 a painting of a Japanese flag, inscribed, "Americans die, but we love Japs," was found on garage doors at his home, 3500 Fairpoint Ave., Pasadena Glen, Altadena.

Told the painting was believed to be in protest at his employment of George Minaki of 200 N. Adams St., Sierra Madre, a native of Gardena, Calif., who recently returned from a relocation center, Dr. Pauling charged the vandalism was an "un-American act." He said the act apparently was inspired and carried out by "misguided people who believe American citizens should be persecuted in the same way that Nazis have persecuted Jewish citizens of Germany."

Nine to Face Court On Draft Charges

CHEYENNE, Wyo.—Nine evacuee residents of the Heart Mountain relocation center, charged with violation of selective service regulations, recently waived jury trials and will appear before U. S. District Judge T. Blake Kennedy on March 26. Their cases originally were scheduled to come up at the Casper term of Federal district court last week.

Japanese Americans Win Boxing Title At Pacific Post

The Engineer Chowhounds, the boxing team representing an Engineer battalion of Japanese American soldiers stationed at an Army base in the Pacific, recently clinched the 1944-45 post championship for boxing teams, according to The Redlander, GI newspaper for APO 957.

Capacity crowds of 11,500 servicemen have attended the weekly matches during the Redlands boxing season during which the Japanese Americans won the team title.

The Japanese American boxers were also expected to win individual championships in weight divisions from bantamweight through middleweight when the final title matches are held on March 20, according to Cpl. Bill Filson, sports editor of The Redlander.

SAN JOSE PREP STUDENTS RAP ANTI-NISEI ACTS

SAN JOSE, Calif.—The attempted burning of the home of the Takeda family on the Alviso-San Jose road on March 6 brought a resolution on March 13 from Abraham Lincoln high school students opposing any action by individuals against Japanese Americans residing in the community.

Copies of the resolution will be sent to student body organizations of other high schools in the vicinity, including Santa Clara high school where two members of the Takeda family are enrolled, Hal Boruck, student body chief at Abraham Lincoln, said.

The action, taken by the Student Senate, followed suggestions from members of the student body.

Suyenaga Sentenced Again for Refusal To Testify in Case

YUMA, Ariz.—Hideo Suyenaga of Poston was again sentenced by the Yuma county court to serve another 30 days in the county jail for contempt of court, it was reported here.

Suyenaga, who refused to answer attorneys' questions on a deposition in a California alien land law case, was previously given a month's jail sentence in January for contempt.

On Feb. 23 he was released after serving his month's term and was brought into court for the second time when he again declined to answer questions put to him.

On March 8 Suyenaga filed an appeal with the Arizona Supreme Court for his release and obtained a temporary writ of habeas corpus for his release on March 14.

In obtaining the writ Suyenaga asserted that it is not within the jurisdiction of the Yuma county Superior Court to take the deposition which is sought by the Superior Court of Los Angeles county, California.

Evacuee Colony Rumors Bring Protests from Louisiana Groups

NEW ORLEANS, La.—Officials of two Louisiana parishes (counties) have protested rumors of the establishment of a colony of Japanese American evacuee farmers in the State of Louisiana, the Times-Picayune reported recently.

The police juries of Jefferson and St. Charles were reported opposed to the reported plans for the initiation of a farming and fishing colony of Japanese Americans near the Mississippi river.

Two New Orleans realtors declared they had been approached regarding rental of land in Jefferson parish and in St. Charles parish near Luling.

Jesse H. Lewis, relocation supervisor of WRA for the southern area, declared he had no knowledge of the reported proposals, and that any such projects would be arranged between those who would comprise the colony and the present land owners if the occasion arose.

Rep. Paul Maloney was quoted on Feb. 25 as having notified Interior Secretary Ickes and Agriculture Secretary Wickard that he and his congressional district oppose the establishment of a colony of Japanese Americans as harmful to the economy of the area.

Canadian Nisei Participated In Historic Commando Raid On French Coast at Dieppe

Japanese Canadian Returns to Montreal Home After More Than Two Years in German Prison Camp; Father Is in Dominion Army on Duty in Britain

KASLO, B. C.—The story of a Canadian Nisei commando, captured during the historic raid on Dieppe in 1942, who has returned to his native Canada after two years in a German prisoner-of-war camp inside Hitler's Europe, was told in the New Canadian on March 10.

Although Canadians of Japanese ancestry are not being accepted at present in the Dominion's armed forces, a handful of Nisei who lived outside of the province of British Columbia have served with Canadian forces in European and Mediterranean war theaters.

San Jose Police Seek Arsonists In Takeda Case

Vigorous Prosecution Promised by Officials; Family to Operate Farm

SAN JOSE, Calif.—Two suspects were reportedly under observation by Santa Clara county authorities in the fire and bullet attack on March 6 on the Takeda home near San Jose.

Vigorous prosecution of those responsible for the attack was promised by Santa Clara county authorities.

Meanwhile, members of the Takeda family remained at their fire-scattered and bullet-pierced home and indicated they would go through with their plans to operate their 10-acre pear orchard this year.

"This definitely is an arson case," Deputy Sheriff Jack Gibbons declared. "We intend to use all our resources to solve it. Six or seven of these people are United States citizens and when I took my oath of office, I promised to protect the property of all United States citizens."

Gibbons said his office was checking on every possible suspect.

"As far as we can find out, there has been no anti-Japanese agitation in the neighborhood," he added. "We can't settle this case in five minutes. This is a delicate situation. It's not like a burglary job."

Deputy District Attorney A.P. Lindsay also voiced the opinion that the attack, in which the Takeda home was set afire while members of the family were asleep inside, was an isolated case.

"I think the county as a whole is law abiding," he declared. "We would prosecute this case to the full extent of the law and will enforce the law in any similar occurrence."

Wins Commission

SUGAR CITY, Idaho—James T. Nakayama, formerly of the state of Washington, recently received a battlefield commission from the rank of staff sergeant to that of 2nd lieutenant, according to friends here.

Evacuee Seaman Hopes to Qualify For Commission

POSTON, Ariz.—David Kanari Arata, merchant marine seaman, has finally shipped out on a dry cargo Liberty ship after receiving his passport, his father, Charles Arata of 322-10-C, Poston, was informed last week.

After six months of active duty the Nisei seaman expects to qualify for a lieutenant (j.g.) commission. His father is a veteran of twelve years of service in the U. S. Navy.

Seek Housing For Evacuees In San Jose

Hostel Project Will Meet Interim Needs Of Returning Group

SAN JOSE, Calif.—Preliminary plans for the opening of a hostel for returning evacuees of Japanese ancestry in the old Japanese church building, 630 N. Fifth St., were made at a conference on March 10 called by the San Jose Council for Civic Unity in the Student Union at San Jose State College.

The hostel project will meet interim needs of citizens who return when their homes are rented to others or have been condemned and new lodgings must be found.

James E. Edminston, director of the new WRA office in San Jose at 246 S. First St., commended the general attitude in the Santa Clara valley toward the return of the Japanese Americans and cited the cooperation he had received in his initial efforts in the area.

Teiko Ishida, San Francisco representative of the National JACL, also spoke at the meeting, describing methods of receiving returnees and establishing them throughout the Bay Area.

Alien Land Law Case Opened in Salinas

SALINAS, Calif.—Trial of the case of the State of California against Yeizo Ikeda, charged with violation of the State's anti-alien land ownership law, was initiated in Superior Court last week.

District Attorney Anthony Brazil claimed on the opening day of the trial on March 6 that Ikeda had operated 72 acres of farm property in the Carr flat area in violation of the California law. Brazil charged that the property was registered in the name of a citizen, Toshi Hanazone.

Ikeda testified on the stand that he had bought the property in 1928 for his daughter, Atsuko, then eight years of age, and had registered it in Hanazone's name until his daughter came of age.

Pvt. David L. Tsubota of Montreal, Canada, was among the recent group of Canadian and American veterans who were repatriated on the exchange ship, Grips-holm, after more than two years of imprisonment in Germany. He was captured during the Allied raid on the French coast at Dieppe in August, 1942.

At present the Nisei veteran is recuperating from his experiences as a war prisoner at his home in Montreal where his only sister, Doris Tsubota, is residing. The Japanese Canadian commando's father is a veteran of Canada's participation in two wars. The elder Tsubota fought at Vimy Ridge in the last war and is now attached to Canadian Army Headquarters in London with the rank of company sergeant-major. Pvt. Tsubota also has an older brother, James, serving in the British army.

"My hands were tied with a rope from morning until bedtime . . . for about a year," the 22-year old Japanese Canadian remarked as he showed his wrists, which still bore the marks of the ropes, to Jack Nakamoto, correspondent for the New Canadian. "To my curious surprise, far from appearing broken-down and war weary, he seemed to possess that tough quality of resiliency which is characteristic of all born soldiers," Nakamoto remarked.

Tsubota joined the Canadian Navy in the spring of 1940 at the age of 18 and was discharged after only three months service because of his Japanese ancestry. He then volunteered to join the army, and was accepted into the famous Black Watch of Canada on July 18, 1940. After a year's training he embarked for England where he received special training in a company of commandos.

At dawn on a day in August, 1942, he was among the Allied soldiers who stormed the beaches of Dieppe in the first large-scale raid on the French coast. About 11 o'clock on that day, he was among a group of soldiers surrounded and captured by the Germans.

After ten days in Occupied France, he was sent to a prison camp in Germany and was thrust into a "compound" with a number of Allied prisoners who, he said, were herded together, some shackled with chains and others tied with ropes. The compound, about 50 by 75 feet, held 170 men.

Tsubota described the meals served the war prisoners as hardly substantial, and said that without the occasional Red Cross supplies which supplemented the diet, many would have starved.

After being hospitalized twice for pleurisy, he was among the Allied prisoners selected to be repatriated through arrangements made by the International Red Cross.

He expressed his gratitude for the aid of the Red Cross, adding that the survival of the prisoners-of-war in the camp depended almost entirely upon the work of this organization.

MILL WORKERS VOTE FOR CIO

SAN FRANCISCO—A 10 to 1 vote in favor of the CIO's International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union has been chalked up in NLRB elections in 10 Hawaiian sugar mills, the union's international office announced this week.

(A large number of the workers voting in the NLRB elections in the Hawaiian mills were Japanese Americans.)

About 2625 workers have been won to ILWU jurisdiction so far in the elections, the CIO reported.

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LARRY TAJIRI EDITOR

EDITORIALS: To Be Continued

Tech. Sgt. Ben Kuroki, a Nebraska farm boy, has become a symbol of the participation of Americans of Japanese ancestry in World War II. Ben Kuroki's story is well known—how he volunteered for military service on the day after Pearl Harbor was attacked, how he fought to get into combat in the Air Forces and did, how he flew 25 heavy bombing missions in North Africa, Italy, France, Germany and in the first raid on the Ploesti oil fields of Rumania, how he completed his tour of duty in Europe and volunteered for five additional missions. Ben Kuroki would be the first to deny that he is a hero. He would say that there are no heroes in the Army—only GIs doing their job in the best way they know how. He would deny, too, that he should be singled out by the Nisei for recognition, and that the men of the infantry, of the 100th Battalion and the 442nd Combat Team, are doing the real job for the Nisei.

Ben Kuroki will say that his hardest duties have not been those he has performed as a turret gunner of a Liberator bomber. His toughest assignments have been at home, like the time he made his first public speech to an audience of 800 of the leading business and professional men of the San Francisco Bay area, as represented in the Commonwealth club, and spoke so well, and so simply, that he received a standing ovation at the end. That speech of Ben Kuroki's is now a part of the history of this war.

When Ben Kuroki returned to the United States after two years of service overseas, his emotions were no doubt the same as that of any GI who has come home. He was in line for a job as a gunnery instructor to train other men to fight in the skies. But Ben Kuroki was impelled by a sense of group responsibility. He knew that he was one of a handful of Nisei in the Air Forces, and so he placed himself in double jeopardy by applying for service in the Pacific war. Here again he was met with reverses and disappointments. He was assigned to a crew of a bomber Pacific-bound, but was transferred before the end of training. He tried again, and many Americans who learned of his desire to serve in the Pacific sent telegrams and letters on his behalf to Washington. Some months ago he was transferred again to the crew of a B-29. Last week an Omaha newspaper published the first report that Ben Kuroki was on active duty "somewhere in the Marianas."

Ben Kuroki's story of overseas service did not end with his last flight over Muenster in Germany when he narrowly missed death. It reads, like an exciting serial — to be continued.

Enforcing the Law

California's public officials have given assurance that the perpetrators of recent instances of violence upon the persons and properties of returned evacuees of Japanese ancestry will be ferreted out and subjected to speedy prosecution.

However, despite forthright statements from Governor Warren and Attorney General Kenny condemning the night-riding hoodlums who are responsible for most of these outbreaks, it would seem that successive instances of violence, such as has occurred in the southern San Joaquin valley in Fresno and Tulare counties, point to a laxity in law enforcement on the part of local peace officers. Although actual evidence of incendiarism may be difficult to obtain, it hardly

seems mere coincidence that in the town of Delano two of the largest buildings owned by evacuees of Japanese ancestry have been destroyed by fire within a period of two weeks. Similar acts of lawlessness are to be expected if local police do not indicate that they are willing to use every resource to find and convict the guilty.

However, it is reported that Sheriff Emig of Santa Clara county is pressing strongly the investigation into the arson and shooting attempts upon the Takeda family. Following an announcement that Sheriff Emig had enlisted the assistance of arson experts of the San Francisco police department in his effort to apprehend and identify the firebugs, Attorney General Kenny wrote to Sheriff Emig, expressing his gratification for the efforts being made: "I was deeply gratified at the forthright stand being taken by your office and particularly yourself, in the recent attack on the lives and property of American citizens in your county . . . I am gratified and I know the State of California is gratified that these nit-wit and asinine intolrances will be dealt with speedily and conclusively . . . You are to be congratulated for taking such a strong stand in preventing further blotches to occur on our legendary record for fair play."

The Attorney General's letter reflects the concern of the State of California's officials on the attitude of local law enforcement agencies toward these anti-evacuee actions. If local officials are not able to control the situation in certain areas, it may prove necessary for the State and, if need be, the Federal government to take further and positive steps to insure the safety of Americans returning to their homes.

Nisei in Production

The Japanese American Citizens League will publish shortly a 36-page booklet which will tell some of the story of Nisei Americans on the production lines at home. In compiling material for the publication the JACL learned of the extent of service of these Nisei civilians—from the farms of the Intermountain West to the mills of Eastern industry. The study also revealed that the need for skilled manpower was giving many trained Nisei their first opportunity to apply their training. Because of a minimum of employer and employee prejudice in the Midwest and East, many Nisei are able to hold important jobs in essential industry.

Nisei in Canada

Stories of gallantry and heroism "above and beyond the call of duty" are so frequent in the war today that they do not always receive the attention they deserve. But the story of Frank T. Hachiya, Hood River, Ore., is an exception. Frank Hachiya's sacrifice on Leyte, in a military campaign for democracy, has served to guarantee a better and fairer deal for his family, his friends, his whole racial group back home in America.

The story of Frank Hachiya, American, underlines again the certain fact of how the status of Japanese Americans has improved and continues to improve steadily since Pearl Harbor. The greater comparative advantage—their freedom of movement, wider employment, affirmation of civil rights—they enjoy today over Japanese Canadians is due in chief measure to the favorable public opinion created and sustained by over 10,000 Nisei boys serving in the American Army in every theater of war. Theirs is a record that no angry fulminations by politicians or patriots of dual citizenship, emperor-worship, low economic standards or inassimilability can ever besmirch.

Here in Canada we cannot point to a comparable situation. For although the Nisei were willing, the Government itself lacked the farsightedness to undertake this imaginative, constructive step. The result, of course, has been to plant and foster negative attitudes of resentment among both the younger and older generation—but particularly among the latter.

But if the opportunity should ever present itself for the Nisei on this side of the border to emulate the deeds of their American cousins, we must be sure to overcome such negative attitudes. There is no question but that the majority of us are destined to remain and work out a future in Canada. Nothing can or will contribute greater security or happiness to that future for all of us, then the Nisei actively serving in uniform.—*From an editorial "They Serve for Us All," in the New Canadian of March 10, 1945.*

Nisei USA

by LARRY TAJIRI

Some Notes on the Nisei

The Nisei are, on the whole, just workaday people, part of America's 130 millions. If it were not for the fact that their parents happened to come from a nation with which we are at war, and if it were not for the fact that they and their parents have been the scapegoats for two generations of West Coast racists, it is quite likely that the Nisei would have been well on the way toward a more complete acceptance by society at large. The Nisei are rather ordinary citizens, working at ordinary jobs. They speak understandable English (though they sometimes have a penchant for plurals, describing household objects as "furnitures" and trash as "junks"), and they do not exhibit quaintness in customs.

For a group which comprises less than one-fifth of one percent of the nation's population, or one individual in every five hundred Americans, the Nisei and their parents seem to inspire far more than their share of nuisance legislation, as well as resolutions of one sort or another from civic and patriotic organizations. In the minds of a certain bitter, angry, and sometimes greedy, section of our citizenry the Nisei are a problem with a capital P. No other minority in the nation has been singled out in recent years for restrictive legislative action. In the great majority of cases these legislative attempts do not succeed because the bills are usually so patently discriminatory that they are in direct violation of the Constitution. Sometimes the bills pass, as in Arkansas where the 1943 legislature voted to forbid forever the ownership of an inch of land in the Razorback state by a person of Japanese ancestry. Sometimes the bill is passed and is later declared invalid in the courts, as in the case of Arizona's 1943 law to prohibit business dealings with Japanese American evacuees. Sometimes a bill is passed and remains in effect, as in the case of the California anti-alien land law, aimed at the immigrant Japanese, but worded to include all aliens "ineligible to citizenship."

Antagonism directed against the Japanese Americans is basically economic and political and only to a lesser degree, social. This is true both in the continental United States and in Hawaii, although the West Coast is generally regarded as the storm center of Yellow Perilism. Along the Pacific Coast much of the antagonism is frankly economic and the business competitors of the Japanese and Japanese Americans can be found in the forefront of agitation. The Americans League of California, the Oregon Property Owners Protective League and the California Preservation Association are three examples of these economic competitors who use the race issue as a weapon. This opposition stemming from economic competition is far more active today than the race purists, represented by the Native Sons of the Golden West, who spout, unwittingly perhaps, divisive propaganda which parallels the writings of Hitler's race expert, Alfred Rosenberg.

A third group is composed of ambitious politicians and careerists in the unwholesome art of minority-baiting. Recent elections have proved that the Yellow Peril tree as applied to the Nisei, bears few political fruits. No California politician in recent years has been elected on the Yellow Peril issue alone. On the other hand many who have indulged in race-baiting have been defeated. Governor Warren of California, who is acutely conscious of political trends, has declared himself in support of the rights of the Nisei as citizens, a stand at considerable variance from that which he took in 1942, and has not suffered for this support of the Constitution of the United States. The careerists in race-baiting, represented by a number of active West Coast gentlemen, will probably be with us so long as intolerance pays.

Racial tensions involving Hawaii's 160,000 persons of Japanese ancestry have never been acute and the race issue is usually raised only at such times when the Territory's non-Caucasian group

seeks to improve their economic and political status. It is numerically incorrect, perhaps, to consider Hawaii's Japanese Americans as a minority, since they comprise 37 percent of the total population and are the largest single race group. However, Hawaii's Nisei (they prefer to be called AJAs) reflect certain patterns of minority group psychology, particularly in relation to their employment futures.

A news report from Honolulu, quoting an unnamed observer, indicated that Japanese Americans in the Territory may remain a political issue for some time to come. Hawaiian legislators have recently taken steps to push their campaign for statehood and it was the opinion of this unidentified commentator that Hawaii's aspirations to become the 49th star was doomed to disappointment. This observer suggested the possibility that the Territory could send two Japanese American senators and a representative to Congress and this prospect alone, though hardly a likely one from the standpoint of contemporary Hawaiian politics, was enough to insure the votes of West Coast delegations against any bill for Hawaiian statehood. Hawaii, in the words of this political authority, saw in recent anti-Nisei incidents on the West Coast the negation of their hopes for statehood. This statement is made, of course, on the premise that West Coast delegations in Congress are united in their anti-Nisei fervor, which is not the case at all.

The war has answered the big question which has retarded previous consideration of statehood for Hawaii. That question revolved around the loyalty of the Territory's population of Japanese ancestry. The combat record of the 100th Infantry Battalion and of the Hawaiian volunteers in the 442nd Combat Team, together with the wartime conduct of the Nisei civilian group, has demonstrated conclusively the citizenship qualities of the Japanese Americans. The fact that the number of Hawaiians of Japanese ancestry in the territorial legislature was the smallest proportionately of any of Hawaii's race groups will help answer the fear of bloc-voting by the Nisei. In fact, there is no record of any instance of bloc-voting by Japanese Americans in Hawaii.

One of the post-evacuation developments directly concerning the Nisei on the mainland has been the growth of anti-evacuee movements of the Remember Pearl Harbor League stripe. These groups are now engaged in an intensive campaign to enlarge the geographical scope of their activities. The Hood River incident, which dramatized the land-grabbing, anti-democratic nature of the activities of these groups, has had a result wholly unlooked for by these practitioners of racial persecution. A direct effect of the Hood River Legion's action has been that of committing the National American Legion to a program of fair play for Nisei war veterans.

In recent weeks the roll-call of the march of hate from Bainbridge Island to the Imperial Valley, ticked off with instances of gunplay and arson, once again has focused national attention to the nature of those who hope to prevent the peaceful return of the evacuees to their homes. The anti-Nisei groups protest that theirs is a program which stops one step short of violence. They piously have absolved themselves of complicity in the recent activities of firebugs and would-be murderers. But violence is the logical end of their hate propaganda. Their anti-democratic chickens are coming home to roost.

In the American Tradition

NEW YORK TIMES
Commenting on the Hood River Legion's decision to restore the names of Japanese Americans to the county war memorial, the New York Times on March 8 declared "the names were struck from the roll in anger" and were "restored in humility after sober reflection."
"Americans always have been quick to right a wrong," the Times added.

Vagaries

FBI Show . . .

The radio show, "The FBI in Peace and War," presented over a national network on Saturdays recently featured a broadcast on a pre-war Japanese espionage ring in Southern California. Frederick Collins, the narrator, told of a Nisei American who died in his attempt to aid the FBI in smashing the enemy espionage setup. The broadcast also stressed the loyalty of Americans of Japanese ancestry. . . . The Portland Oregonian published a letter on Feb. 27 from sixty soldiers, whose names were listed, protesting the removal of the names of Japanese Americans from the Hood River county war memorial. The Oregonian also published an editor's note which stated that "belatedly" the information was at hand that Tech. Sgt. Frank Hachiya's name never appeared on the Hood River honor roll, as he enlisted elsewhere, although he was a resident of the Hood River Valley for many years.

Comic Strip . . .

The story of Tech. Sgt. Ben Kuroki, now reported fighting in the Pacific, has been told on the radio, in newspapers and in magazines. Recently it appeared in a new form as a cartoon strip in "The Challenger," an inter-faith comic book for boys. . . . The Kent, Wash., News-Journal, published in the hysteria-ridden White River valley, was recently honored with the annual award of the Washington State Press Club for distinguished editorial writing. The editorial which won the honor for the Kent paper was a sober commentary on the question of the return of Americans of Japanese ancestry to the West Coast. . . . Latest mimeographed evacuee publication is "The St. Louis Nisei," a newsletter published by the Nisei Coordinating Council of St. Louis, Mo.

New Yorker . . .

The New Yorker will publish a story on a Nisei soldier in the Pacific by one of its war correspondents, John Lardner. It may be recalled that Lardner, who is also featured each week in Newsweek, published the first magazine story on the 100th Infantry Battalion in Italy. . . . Mine Okubo's drawings of relocation center life were featured at American Common, sponsored by Common Ground magazine. Miss Okubo is completing a book (drawings and text) on the evacuation and what came after. . . . The postoffice at Hood River, Ore., has been swamped with mail from all parts of the country and from overseas since the Hood River Legion's action in defacing their war memorial.

West Coast . . .

According to WRA reports, Los Angeles leads California cities in the number of evacuees who have returned with 58 out of a total of 473 who are back in the State. Other leading cities are Sacramento, 44; Parlier, 43; Selma, 32, and Fowler, 26. . . . The Atlanta, Ga., Journal ("covers Dixie like the dew") recently published a special illustrated article on wounded Japanese Americans at Lawson General Hospital, near Atlanta, in its Sunday magazine. . . . Recently the USO in a small town in New York state was host to several hundred Japanese American soldiers and girls at a special dance. The women of this town, many of whom had never before seen a Nisei, contributed 40 good home-made cakes and 27 pies for the affair.

Legion Post . . .

Another World War II post of the American Legion in Los Angeles, the Don E. Brown post No. 593, recently passed a resolution condemning discrimination against Japanese American citizens and war veterans. The post is named in honor of the son of film comedian Joe E. Brown who was killed in a plane crash. . . . One of the behind-the-scenes reasons for the negative attitude against Nisei evacuees noted in Springfield, Mass., famed for its inter-racial "Springfield plan" is the visit last fall of a Warner Brothers movie unit headed by Crane Wilbur, Hollywood director,

A Short Story . . . MY FRIEND SUKI

By VERA ARVEY

Last Christmas, as usual, I wrapped a gift for my friend Suki and mailed it to her at the evacuation center where she was interned with many other people of American and of Japanese birth. Several weeks passed. No word from Suki. Then I received a formal printed postcard acknowledging receipt of the package from the medical superintendent of a state hospital for the mentally afflicted.

Momentarily I was stunned. Then I began to write letters, and to telephone mutual friends, and soon we had pieced together the whole tragic story of Suki and her family.

Many years ago a Japanese priest had emigrated to the U.S., bringing his wife and some small children. When he was settled in Los Angeles and had begun the work which was to occupy him for almost two-score years (the preaching of brotherly love in his little temple), Suki was born, the first of their children to arrive on American soil. The parents were so proud. They were Issei because of their Japanese birth, but now they had a little Nisei, a true daughter of America, their choice of homeland.

Suki went to American schools, always the ones in which there were many Negro students, because the Japanese were carefully segregated and discriminated against by residential restrictions, just as Negroes were, so they all lived in the same districts. But Suki and her family felt no kinship with Negroes for many years.

After Suki graduated and went out into the world, her artistic tendencies manifested themselves in many ways, and because she was sensitive and artistic, she was also misunderstood by many outsiders. However, she felt herself to be thoroughly American. She often remarked that she had no bond of sympathy with the old Japanese ways, or with the people who followed them.

Among the Japanese people for many months before the outbreak of war there was a feeling that something was about to happen, yet they trusted implicitly the American spirit of fairplay. On December 7, 1941, Suki's father remarked to her, "Now we are at war with other. For you are born American." Suki turned cold. "This," Suki later told me over the phone, "is the most terrible day of my life. How I do hope the Americans will do something for people like me, because the Japanese government certainly doesn't care what happens to us! We who have cast our lot in with that of America have nothing to offer a nation whose leaders are relentlessly pursuing what they believe to be their destiny of military conquest."

When it became necessary for all aliens to register, Suki accompanied her parents to headquarters. Afterward she said that then, for the first time, did she realize how Negroes feel. Never before had she been made to feel with such finality that she was an outsider in the land she had called her own. None the less, Suki's father immediately offered his services to America, and went to work for the Red Cross.

During the months of indecision regarding our ultimate treatment of the Japanese here, the younger children were at first withdrawn from public schools in California so that they might hold themselves in readiness to do whatever our government asked of them. Suki's little nieces and nephews did as the others did. When the decision remained indefinite, the children re-enrolled in the schools, so that they would not miss a week, or even a day, of any instruction they might have.

At last came the voluntary exodus, then the military evacuation. Suki wanted to store their furniture, but couldn't manage it somehow, and all of it had to go. So many beloved personal belongings were sold. Many of the Nisei doubted their ability to get along, for any length of time, with the

for the purpose of filming scenes of Springfield's experiments in racial harmony. While in Springfield Wilbur was quoted spreading hysterical racist statements against Japanese Americans.

Isseis. One young girl said she had confidence in her ability to get along for the first month, but what was she going to do during the second month, and the third, and the fourth? For they were all saying "goodbye" to their friends here with an air of finality. Suki said very quietly that she did not expect to see anyone here, ever again.

Once in the evacuation center, Suki seemed relaxed and surprised at conditions. "On introspection," she wrote me, "I would say that Americans are the most fair-minded, reasonable and just people." For by that time the old-school Japanese had begun to look at the young American-born Japanese with sullen resentment. They implied, and indeed often said scornfully, that the youngsters were trying to deny their heritage and to make themselves non-Japanese in fact.

Suki marvelled over the regularity of their meals. Her little niece said, she reported, at every-mealtime, "What! We gonna eat, again?" But even the most philosophic of the internees could not forget their boundaries, and soon Suki came to the place where she could not imagine life without them. For there were many little things to which they had been accustomed in civilian life that they were unable to get in the centers, some, just little nick-nacks from the five and ten cent stores, but important to their living.

There followed a period of deeper introspection, during which Japanese social workers pointed out to all internees that they were feeling a super-sensitive reaction from the loss of their possessions and venting their spite on the nearest object, and that the sooner they realized that no one could gain more than his neighbor, they would all come to a better understanding. This did not, however, stop some who tried to play politics, and to use influence to gain special favors. Also under discussion were interracial questions, including inter-marriages which, in some cases, caused unkind circumstances and in others resulted in no repercussions whatever, when the husbands (or wives) of different racial backgrounds quietly accepted the fate of their mates and children.

Suki mirrored the general feeling of nervous tension, futility—and a fierce desire to have her loyalty recognized. Then a whole series of personal tragedies literally burst upon her. Her mother died in the center's hospital. Something—we have not yet discovered what it was—happened to her father, for another internee wrote to a friend, concerning him, "Poor Dr. X—, I guess he just couldn't take it." Suki was sent away from this tragic scene, to an evacuation center in another state. There her beloved sister had a miscarriage and became violently ill, and on the very day this happened, Suki's mind could take no more. It went completely blank. She remembered absolutely nothing of what had gone before, or what was happening then. So they took her to the hospital for the mentally afflicted.

When the Supreme Court recently handed down its momentous decision that these American-born Japanese are indeed American citizens and that they have a right to protection under the laws of the U.S. (unless, of course, they are known to be disloyal, in which case the department of justice will deal with them accordingly) I rejoiced for the cause of minority rights and democracy. But I was sorry that Suki could no longer be able to benefit by this just decision.

Today I received a letter from her. It was faint, but beautifully written. Her doctor says she is recovering, and that someday she will be able to take her place in the world she left a few years ago. When that day comes, I hope she will return without resentment in her heart, and that she will continue to think of America as being a nation of fair-minded and just people, and—most important—that she continues to think of herself as an American.

("My Friend Suki" by Vera Arvey is reprinted from the inter-racial newspaper, NOW, published at Los Angeles, Calif. Edited and published by Negro and white Americans, NOW, formerly the War Worker, is a semi-monthly publication dedicated to inter-racial progress.)

From the Frying Pan

By BILL HOSOKAWA

Evacuee Parley Recommendations Unrealistic

If hopes for a constructive program had been pinned on the seven-center conference of WRA center residents, then there is reason for disappointment. The findings of the week-long conference—a "statement of facts" and 21 recommendations—are hardly what one could expect from such a conference of individuals picked to represent the residents of their respective centers.

In the light of reality, one can find three fundamental weaknesses in the statement and recommendations. The analysis must be extremely realistic, for there is a great gap between the ideal solution of the situation, and that which can be accomplished under present circumstances. If the ideal viewpoint were to have been presented to Mr. Myer, then one had only to sit by the irrigation ditch and jot down the outlines of one's own Utopian dreams, instead of going to the time and trouble of a conference.

These weaknesses are:

1. A lack of understanding of functions of government agencies in a democratic state.
2. A lack of understanding of public opinion.
3. A lack of understanding of one of the fundamental objectives of resettlement—to win acceptance for Japanese Americans as full-fledged Americans rather than members of a hyphenated minority group.

The findings and recommendations of the conference are from the viewpoint of center-bound individuals who are unfamiliar with the realities as they exist in the somewhat larger world outside the center gate.

This viewpoint, unfortunately, gives the findings the appearance of having been drafted by individuals politically immature and without a real understanding of their own problems.

Perhaps the greatest weakness of the program is the state of mind which accepts the so-called "statement of facts" as a statement of intent. In other words, the delegates represent a segment of camp thought which is so appalled by what has happened that it is unwilling to believe anything other than what is fixed in its own mind.

Thus, they believe resettlement is virtually impossible. Therefore the "facts" set forth in the statement are cited as proof of the WRA's objectives are an impossibility.

We would be the first to agree that it would be inadvisable for a small number in the centers to relocate other than to an old folk's home. But on the other hand there are cold statistics, being strengthened daily, which show that family units are making a success of resettlement.

To get back to the three weaknesses mentioned above, the conference appears to believe WRA

Santa Clara Case SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

The San Francisco Chronicle on March 8 commended Deputy Sheriff Jack Gibbons of Santa Clara County for his statement regarding the firing of a Japanese American home near San Jose.

Gibbons had defined the case as arson "regardless of who lives there," and had added: "When I took my oath of office I promised to protect the property of all United States citizens."

"This consciousness in peace officers is what has kept this country free," said the Chronicle.

Violence Unwanted FRESNO BEE

The Fresno, Calif., Bee said on March 8 the action of vandals in setting fire to the home of a Japanese American family in the Santa Clara valley "is to be regretted."

"California wants no violence over the release of the Japanese from the relocation centers," the Bee, which has previously criticized the government's relocation program, added.

To Err Is Human HOOD RIVER NEWS

The Hood River, Ore., News editorialized on March 8 that the American Legion post in the city, by restoring the names of Japanese Americans to the county war memorial, had "corrected an error which, because it was largely based on purely local conditions and which did not present themselves elsewhere, gained far more publicity than those who made the error could ever have anticipated and certainly a type which could not have been desired."

is a self-sufficient, all-powerful government agency with top priority and virtual dictatorial powers among the many government agencies involved in winning the war and keeping the home front intact.

For instance, the conference would have WRA loan, or make available for loans, federal funds for purposes of individual rehabilitation. This amounts to an individual subsidy, something which the government cannot do for one group of people without making available to all. Even soldiers, whose wartime sacrifices certainly has been greater than that of any civilian evacuee, has only limited government assistance under provisions of the G. I. bill of rights, and these do not include individual subsidy.

Many of the recommendations ask preferential treatment for Japanese Americans. This is not only impossible, but extremely unwise from the viewpoint of the evacuees themselves. Imagine the nationwide uproar that would follow, if, for instance, Nisei or Japanese aliens were given OPA priority on a racial basis and permitted to purchase, regardless of merit, such rationed items as cars, trucks, tires and farm implements.

And what justification in the eyes of the American public would there be if the federal government guaranteed installment payments for merchandise purchased by Japanese American evacuees as requested in point No. 5 of the conference's recommendations?

The bases for the conference's recommendations appear to be laid on two unwise principles, or in stronger words, fundamental fallacies. They are:

1. Evacuees as a group are entitled to preferential treatment because of the evacuation.
2. Evacuees must demand the greatest possible subsidy—in money, goods, preferential treatment and service—that can be squeezed out of the government as a rightful indemnity for losses suffered in the evacuation.

This is where the third weakness mentioned above comes in. Every recommendation of the conference is based on the assumption that the special, discriminatory position of the Japanese American which existed prior to Pearl Harbor still exists. This is true so long as the Japanese American remains in the center and continues to regard himself as a member of an outcast group.

But thousands of Japanese Americans are discovering every day in the midwest and east that they can be accepted as full-fledged Americans in the social, economic and political life of American communities with no questions asked about their ancestors.

These individuals, who literally have re-discovered America through the evacuation, will protest any plan to perpetuate a Jap-crow movement calling for special treatment of a racial group. Nisei students are apt to scoff at demand No. 20 for "adequate protection" enjoyed in colleges and universities by Caucasian students.

In asking the WRA to open privileges such as membership in labor unions, the conference forgot that before Pearl Harbor Japanese Americans lived an extremely restricted life. Few unions were open to them then. But now, despite the inevitable hatreds of war, relocatees in the midwest and east are living in greater freedom than they ever did.

In retrospect, it seems the conference could have accomplished a service by lifting its horizons. While keeping its discussions on the problems of the evacuees, as was their objective, it could have attained its ends by making its recommendations applicable to all persons dislocated by the war. Then it would have identified the evacuees with the problems of postwar rehabilitation and readjustment of millions of other Americans.

EDITORIAL DIGEST

A Lesson for Bigots DETROIT FREE PRESS

Noting that the Hood River, Ore., American Legion had erased the names of 15 Japanese Americans from its war memorial, the Detroit Free Press declared on March 8 "this act of bigotry deserved and got widespread condemnation."

"It is only fair to note that Post No. 22 has reversed itself," the Free Press said. "It is no more than honor demanded. But the restoration is also an indication of the long distance countless Americans have to go in learning the meaning of tolerance and democratic fairness. We are not without need of such knowledge here in Detroit."

"There is a lesson for bigots everywhere in the Hood River incident."

Right to Reproduce THE NEW LEADER

"There are here in America, and in positions of high national responsibility, men whose thinking panders to just such psychotic emotionalism as Hitler displays," The New Leader, labor-liberal weekly published in New York, declared on March 3 in an editorial comment on Oklahoma Representative Jed Johnson's demand for the sterilization of male Japanese in segregation camps.

"The tragedy of such vicious imbecility is that it was spoken, not by a discredited fanatic in or out of an asylum, but by a member of the United States Congress," the New Leader added. "The responsibility goes back to the people who put him there."

"When the people of this country fail to take seriously their obligation to insure for themselves and their fellow citizens a just and democratic government, they betray their birthright as Americans and leave open the way for Fascists and fools"

Stop It, and Soon THE PEOPLE'S WORLD

"Vigorous action is needed to offset the Hitlerite racism peddled by the Hearst press," the San Francisco People's World, West Coast progressive daily, declared on March 13 in a comment on recent incendiary and gun attacks on Japanese Americans in California.

"These Americans need support by all their fellow Americans," the People's World said. The paper added:

"The state and its local police authority have the duty of protecting them in their rights, and of punishing any who attack them."

"We want to see those authorities in San Jose, Los Angeles, and Visalia, perform those duties without any quibbling and alibis, such as that given forth by the Santa Clara sheriff, that 'somebody had been drinking.'

"They must change their brand of booze, and the sheriff of Santa Clara had best help by rounding up the criminals, who are undoubtedly known to a considerable number of people. The law-abiding and democratic people of Santa Clara county should demand no excuse from the sheriff for 'failure' to identify and arrest them."

"And the same goes with the authorities in other sections where similar gangs, knowing that their crimes are not approved by decent Americans, half hide their identity and commit their depredations under cover at night."

"If county authorities due not take action, and effective action, we expect Attorney General Robert Kenny to step in and enforce the law against both the criminals and the local authorities who show they are in cahoots with them."

"More, if these measures are not effective, we urge a popular movement to unseat delinquent authorities and appeal to the Federal government to enforce the Constitution in the State of California, by armed force if need be."

Joe Masaoka Speaks To Milwaukee Group

MILWAUKEE, Wis.—Joe Masaoka of Salt Lake City and Dr. T. T. Yatabe of Chicago were recent visitors in Milwaukee. Masaoka discussed the JACL and the resettlement program before a group of resettlers at the YWCA on March 6.

Oregon Judge Rules Lease Ended When Army Lifted Ban

OREGON CITY, Ore.—Another move in the legal battle to prevent Masayuki Fujimoto, an American citizen of Japanese ancestry, from regaining possession of his farm property near Damascus was made on March 12 in Clackamas county circuit court.

Glenn Jack, attorney for Dale and Lorene Bergh, lessees of Fujimoto, filed a motion for an order to set aside the circuit court judgment in favor of Fujimoto, notwithstanding the verdict of "guilty" against the Berghs on the charge of encroachment on Fujimoto's property, as given by the jury last week on direction of Judge Earl C. Latourette.

Judge Latourette made the directed verdict order on motion of Fujimoto's counsel, Barney Skulason and Cliff Powers, Portland, after having heard arguments on the meaning of a clause in the lease. Determining that the matter was a point of law and not of

fact, Judge Latourette was required by court procedure to direct the jury's verdict.

The judgment hinged on the life of the lease, and Judge Latourette ruled that it was intended by both parties that the leasehold would terminate when the "national emergency" was over and Fujimoto was permitted to return to the West Coast, from which he was evicted by the Army evacuation orders in 1942.

Inasmuch as the military rescinded the exclusion order, the "national emergency" as it affected persons of Japanese ancestry was concluded, Judge Latourette ruled—the permission to Fujimoto to return to his property being conclusive evidence of such an intent, the judge explained.

Attorney Jack stated the Berghs would appeal the case to the State Supreme Court if the motion is denied by Judge Latourette.

Japanese American Combat Veterans See Broadway Hit

"Junior Miss" Troupe Performs Before Nisei GIs in South France

WITH THE SIXTH ARMY GROUP, FRANCE—American soldiers of Japanese ancestry now guarding the Franco-Italian border are now being royally entertained by "Junior Miss."

This fast moving, escapist comedy of home-life in the United States is helping many a member of the famed 442nd Japanese American Combat Team to forget for a couple of hours the grimness of war and their buddies who fell in the Italian campaign and the great Battle for Germany in the Vosges Mountains of Northeastern France.

This Broadway hit is now playing before capacity audiences of war-weary American soldiers sent to the Riviera Rest Center in Nice from the battlefields of the North as well as from the nearby Maritime Alps. Many Japanese American soldiers are in nightly crowds who laugh at the antics of this U.S.O. Camp Shows troupe.

This U.S.O. unit arrived in Paris last November and has played over a hundred performances since arriving overseas. They were scheduled to play in Strasbourg, but the German break-through in December changed their plans. Instead of going north, they came south, playing in hospitals, makeshift theatres, and wherever space permitted them to put up their compact little production. Today, they are the top attraction for American soldiers sent to this great French resort area for well-deserved rests.

Off and on stage, the "Junior Miss" company is one happy family. Every member doubles as a player as well as stage hand or manager. Ben Lachland, veteran player with over 20 years in the theatre, for example, plays "Harry Graves," the father in the stage show, and doubles as company manager for the troupe on tour. Lachland has played with such stars as George M. Cohan, Ethel Barrymore, Walter Hampden, and the Otis Skinner. His home is at 16 Gramercy Park, New York City.

Star of the production is Patricia Peardon, 337 West 22nd Street, New York City. She is the "original Junior Miss," having played the starring role of "Judy Graves" when the comedy first opened on Broadway several seasons ago. Since that time, she has played her role an estimated thousand times. At the present time, she is playing her part even though a leg is in a cast, in keeping with the tradition of the stage and her desire to entertain as many troops as possible. A little over a week ago, while hurrying to dress for her part after visiting wounded servicemen in a base hospital, she broke her leg.

Her father, Lieutenant Commander Ross C. Peardon, is stationed at the Philadelphia Navy Yard. Her husband, Staff Sergeant Peter Kalischer, is somewhere in the Pacific. "He spoke French so fluently that I was sure he would be sent over here," Miss Peardon remarked.

Paying tribute to the members of the 442nd Combat Team, she stated that "Everywhere we went,

we heard a lot about you boys. Everyone talks about what a wonderful job you fellows are doing and what fine soldiers you are. And I'm thrilled to meet and talk with you boys."

Lois' boy friends, "Merrill Feurbach," "Haskell Cummings," "Tommy Arbuckle," and "Albert Kunedy" are played by Richard Via, 401 Ridge Street, Charlottesville, Virginia; Edward Waglin, 846 East 37th Street, Brooklyn, New York; Barton Stone, 58 East 86th Street, New York City; and Rupert Baron, 4410 Cayuga Avenue, Riverdale, New York, respectively. Arthur Cavanaugh, the "Messenger Boy," is from 8550 Forest Parkway, Wood Haven, Long Island, New York.

All of the fellows in the cast are 4-F's and volunteered to play overseas as their contribution to the war effort. Baron spent 10 months at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, where the Japanese Americans trained with the 69th Division, before he received a medical discharge. He says that he's meeting his old friends of the Combat Team every night and that they are more than living up to the great promise they showed as soldiers while in training.

Dr. Bennion Will Speak to Murray Chapter of JACL

Dr. Adam S. Bennion, prominent Utah civic leader, will speak to members of the Mount Olympus chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League on Friday, March 23 at 8:30 p. m. at Jensen Home, 27th South and Highland drive in Salt Lake City.

Dr. Bennion, who was the Republican nominee for U. S. Senator in 1944, will speak on a subject of special interest to Japanese Americans.

It was announced that the meeting was open to the public.

Bazooka Teams Led by Nisei Helps Repulse German Forces

WITH THE SIXTH ARMY GROUP, FRANCE—During the 442nd Japanese American Combat Team's assault to smash through the tight enemy ring around the Lost "Texas" Battalion, a forward company was subjected to severe artillery, mortar, and tank fire. Seriously threatened by a strong German counterattack spearheaded by three tanks, they called for additional bazooka teams and ammunition.

Lieutenant Masamitsu, then a technical sergeant in charge of six bazooka teams of the Second Battalion Headquarters, immediately started forward with his men and the much-needed ammunition.

One hundred yards from their destination they were pinned down by a heavy concentration of artillery fire. After directing his men to cover, the lieutenant proceeded alone with the ammunition. Safely depositing his load, Lieutenant Masamitsu returned to his men and found one of them seriously wounded.

Japanese American Engineers Play Vital Part in Operations Of 442nd on Italian Frontier

6th ARMY GROUP, FRANCE—Working and fighting in the rugged Alpine mountains along the Franco-Italian frontier, an Engineer Combat Company of the Japanese American 442nd Infantry Regiment is systematically laying a vast network of defenses against possible enemy attack.

As part of Lt. Gen. Jacob L. Devers' 6th Army Group, the company has laid hundreds of anti-personnel mines in an estimated 40 minefields and erected thou-

sands of yards of barbed-wire entanglements over the treacherous mountain terrain. Bridges and vital roads are prepared for demolition in the event of German counterattacks. At the same time, the Engineer Company is making it possible for its own patrols to probe enemy defenses by clearing the winding trails and roadways of obstacles.

In Italy and in the bitterly contested Vosges Mountain fighting, the company cleared approximately 70 minefields, constructed 35 by-passes, 40 culverts and six bridges, often under direct enemy observation and fire.

Several times the Combat Engineers have gone into the front lines as infantrymen. Serving as infantry patrols near Florence, Italy, they were among the first Allied soldiers to cross the Arno River. In this same sector, a bulldozer operated by Sgt. Alfred G. Tomita, Burley, Idaho, led a group of tank destroyers into a key Italian city.

Members of the Engineer Combat Company include:

HAWAII

OAHU

HONOLULU
1st Lt. Walter T. Matsumoto, 838 Lukepane St.
Sgt. Denichi Sato, 1733 Citron St.

Sgt. William C. Tomaki, 4672 Kalaniana'ole Hi-way.
Sgt. James T. Nakamura, 1498 Dillingham Blvd.

1st Lt. Gilbert D. Kobatake, 1943 Dole St.
Sgt. Mervin M. Takano, 1027 Democrat St.

S/Sgt. Richard T. Tsutsumi, 920 Austin Lane.
Sgt. Kosuke Imori, 572 South St.

Sgt. Edmund Y. Ezuka, 911-B McCully St.
1st Lt. Francis I. Fujita, 1059-B Kinau St.

Sgt. Theodore T. Uyeno, 981 Akepo Lane.
Sgt. Kazuo, Yasuda, 1018 Kikeke Ave.

Pfc. Rodney T. Yamashiro, 1241 10th Ave.
KAHUKU
S/Sgt. Mike Otake.

WAHIAWA
Sgt. George S. Kurio.
Sgt. Howard M. Hirono.

WAIPAHAU
Sgt. Francis H. Anzai.
MAUI

LAHAINA
Sgt. Tadao, Ota.
Sgt. Sugiichi W. Hiraga.

WAR RELOCATION CENTERS
McGehee Relocation Center
Arkansas
Sgt. Frank R. Nakatsuma, 38-8-B.

Poston Relocation Center
Arizona
Cpl. James M. Shimashita, 213-2-A.

Cpl. Tsukasa Takehara, 323-3-C.
Cpl. Henry A. Morimoto, 27-7-B.

Cpl. Suemi J. Hirabayashi, 214-4-A.
Pvt. George Furuya, 28-8-B.
Pfc. Hideo Masumoto, 17-5-A.
Pvt. Kazuo Tanaka, 38-7-A.

Amache Relocation Center
Colorado
S/Sgt. Frank Sagara, 8E-9F.
Pvt. Paul E. Otaya, 9K-7B.
Pvt. Shigehiko S. Ishigaki, 9E-11C.

Granada Relocation Center
Colorado
Pvt. Jiro Kai, 12F-10D.
Newell Relocation Center
California
Pfc. Masanobu H. Norimoto, 27-16-C.

Hunt Relocation Center
Idaho
Sgt. Roy D. Murakami, 31-4-B.
Sgt. Tadashi C. Fujioka, 2-2-B.
Pfc. Herbert H. Fushimi, 14-2-E.

Pvt. Kai K. Shirane, 3-6-B.
Pvt. Terry T. Ogawa, 1-3-F.
Pvt. Julius Y. Fujihira, 40-9-B.
Pfc. Willie H. Tahara, 41-9-E.
Pfc. Yoshihiro Akagi, 29-7-D.

Pvt. Eddie H. Sato, 38-4-A.
Pvt. Kenji Yaguchi, 44-3-E.
Heart Mountain Relocation Center
Wyoming

S/Sgt. Gengo W. Okura, 2-3-E.
Pvt. George T. Noda, 9-11-E.
2nd Lt. Harunobu Tsukuno, 22-13-B.

Pvt. Toshiro H. Kanbara, 6-3-C.
Topaz Relocation Center
Utah
Pvt. Sam S. Tominaga.
Pvt. S. Furuya, 30-4-B.

Idaho Soldier Gets Munitions To Nisei Unit

Machine Gun Crews Force Germans to Withdraw in Fighting

WITH THE SIXTH ARMY GROUP, FRANCE—During the Seventh Army push through the rugged Vosges Mountains of Northeastern France, a rifle company of the 442nd Japanese American Combat Team was momentarily halted in their advance against the Germans. They found themselves in desperate need for ammunition.

Private First Class Setsuo J. Matsuura, a member of the heavy weapons platoon attached to the forward company, volunteered to go back to the supply depot some hundred yards to the rear. Though realizing the danger of travelling through the fierce mortar and artillery barrage, Private Matsuura dashed toward his destination.

Upon reaching the supply depot, he quickly loaded himself with all he could carry. Paying no heed to his comrades' advice to wait until the shelling stopped, he immediately returned over the mountainous, heavily wooded forest to the company. The machine gun crews, resupplied with ammunition, sprayed the enemy positions with such an intensity of fire that the Wehrmacht forces soon withdrew.

The courageous action by Private Matsuura made it possible for the rifle company to continue its advance.

It was a few days later in the same vicinity that the Japanese Americans made the heroic rescue of the Lost "Texas" Battalion in the dark woods near Bruyeres. After the lone battalion from the 36th Division had been trapped for over seven days, troops from the Combat Team smashed their way through the tight German ring.

Before coming to France, Private Matsuura fought with his unit in the Italian campaign with the 34th "Red Bull" Division in the Allied drive from north of Rome to the Gothic Line.

His brother, Sam Matsuura, now lives in Potlatch, Idaho.

Disregarding his own personal safety, he carried the injured man to a safe position and rendered first aid. After seeing that the wounded man was safely evacuated, the Japanese American soldier returned to his bazooka teams and skillfully led them to the front lines.

The Lieutenant's leadership and accurate judgment in placing the bazooka teams helped to repulse the German counterattack.

Before fighting in France with the 36th Division, Lieutenant Masamitsu participated with his unit in the Italian campaign. The Combat Team, then attached to the 34th "Red Bull" Division, played a major part in the Fifth Army's northward push from Rome to the Gothic Line.

The Japanese American officer won a battlefield promotion to his present rank while in the Vosges. His sister Mrs. Y. Yamashita, lives at 13-05-A, Rohwer War Relocation Center, McGehee, Arkansas.

Hawaii Sergeant Leads Troops In Capture of Fortified Hill

Japanese Americans Engage Enemy as Close as 15 Yards

WITH THE SIXTH ARMY GROUP, FRANCE—During the Seventh Army's advance through the Vosges Mountains of Northeastern France, an American Sergeant of Japanese ancestry, by his extraordinary heroism, led his small group in capturing a fortified German hill.

Staff Sergeant Tsuneo Takemoto, Hilo, Hawaii, a platoon sergeant of a rifle company, 442nd Japanese American Combat Team, was given the task of driving the enemy from their strong, entrenched positions on Hill 617. Forming a skirmish line, the platoon of 21 men advanced through the rocky, thickly-wooded forest.

The first and second lines of German defenses at 200 yard intervals were cleared with little opposition. Upon advancing near the third and final defense line, the men were pinned down by intense automatic fire. The sergeant seeing the need to encourage his men, charged forward 30 yards alone, blasting the entrenched gun positions with his Thompson sub-machine gun.

His men, inspired by their leader's demonstration quickly joined in the charge on the Germans. Shouting taunts, firing from the hips, and throwing grenades, the small group soon over-ran the enemy defenses.

Just as he sent the captured prisoners to the rear and was re-organizing the platoon, an enemy force of 12 men supported by four automatic weapons attacked his left flank. After setting his men in a skirmish line, the Hawaiian-born sergeant sent an automatic rifleman and his assistant to the right flank to engage the enemy from his left. The flanking party caught the hostile force by surprise. At the same time, Sergeant Takemoto and his men charged the attacking forces.

In the bitter fire fight that fol-

lowed, the Japanese Americans engaged the enemy troops at distances as close as 15 yards. The valiant attack led to the complete rout of the enemy.

Sergeant Takemoto's parents reside at 595 Laukapu Street, Hilo, Hawaii.

Milwaukee Student Marries Soldier

MILWAUKEE, Wis.—Milwaukee friends have received announcements of the marriage of Miss Yoshiko Uchiyama to Pvt. George Tani in the chapel at Fort Snelling, Minnesota, on February 10. A reception was held at the Servicemen's Club immediately following the ceremony.

Mrs. Tani, who is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. Uchiyama, 15-11-H, Minidoka, recently completed requirements for a bachelor of Science degree in Home Economics at Milwaukee Downer College and will receive her diploma at the school's Commencement exercises in June.

Marauder Veteran Praises Nisei Who Served in Burma

Master Sgt. John D. Russell, veteran of the Burma campaign of Merrill's Marauders, had high praise for Japanese American members of Gen. Frank Merrill's volunteers, first U. S. Infantry unit to fight on the Asiatic mainland, in a March 15 interview in the Salt Lake Tribune.

"They were right with us all the time," Sgt. Russell declared.

He said that the Japanese Americans were "as fine a group of men as I have ever known."

Sgt. Russell's wife and daughter reside in Salt Lake City.

Lodi Soldier Wins Officer Rating On Battlefield

WITH THE SIXTH ARMY GROUP, FRANCE—Staff Sergeant James Hajime Kurata, an American soldier of Japanese descent from Lodi, California, was recently commissioned on the battlefield somewhere in France.

Lieutenant Kurata, an artillery forward observer of the 522nd Field Artillery Battalion, 442nd Japanese American Combat Team, won his commission during the unit's drive with the 36th "Texas" Division in the Seventh Army's push through the Vosges Mountains of Northeastern France.

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Murray Nephi

Vital Statistics

BIRTHS

To Mr. and Mrs. Tak Yamaguchi a boy, Ronnie Douglas, on Feb. 28 at Caldwell, Idaho.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hideto H. Iwata (24-2-C, Minidoka) a boy on Feb. 8.

To Mr. and Mrs. Masakuni Takeda (14-12-C, Minidoka) a girl on Feb. 20.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kazu Saito (7H-11B, Granada) a boy on February 20.

To Mr. and Mrs. Chiyoji Ono (8G-6D, Granada) a girl on February 22.

To Mr. and Mrs. Ted Ohashi a girl, Charlotte Ann, on Feb. 9 in St. Louis.

To Mr. and Mrs. George Saito a son, Michael Alan, on March 4 in Milwaukee, Wis.

To Mr. and Mrs. Tom Takahashi (325-6-B, Poston) a boy on March 2.

To Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Masao Kobata (31-4-C, Rivers) a girl on March 5.

To Mr. and Mrs. Noboru Tom Oshige (26-7-B, Rivers) a girl on March 2.

To Mr. and Mrs. Katsuo Thomas Kumano (22-2-B, Rivers) a boy on March 3.

To Mr. and Mrs. George Kozuma (316-12-C, Poston) a boy on March 3.

To Mr. and Mrs. Yukio Kurimoto (216-11-A, Poston) a boy on March 3.

To Mr. and Mrs. T. Fujimura (229-13-D, Poston) a boy on March 4.

To Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kyochi Fukuda (3-7-C, Poston) a boy on March 4.

To Mr. and Mrs. P. N. Yamamoto (322-12-D, Poston) a boy on March 5.

To Mr. and Mrs. Nobuyuki H. Yagi (209-101D, Poston) a girl on March 6.

To Mr. and Mrs. Masao Oka (18-5-B, Poston) a boy on March 7.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hisazo Sakaguchi (13-7-A, Poston) a boy on March 9.

DEATHS

Infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fumio Furukawa on Feb. 28.

Mrs. Ito Morimoto, 62, (2-5-B, Heart Mountain) on March 5.

Julie Umeki, 8 months, (37-2-F, Minidoka) on Jan. 19.

Kunitaro Shibata, 65, (19-1-A, Minidoka) on Jan. 27.

Kio Kuribagashi, 28 (30-11-A, Minidoka) on Feb. 2.

Shikachi Nishimura, 63, (30-3-E, Minidoka) on Feb. 7.

Masato Eto, 64 (1-10-E, Minidoka) on Feb. 11.

Mrs. Koma Minami, 75, (29-7-C, Minidoka) on Feb. 13.

Yohei Kataoka, 52, on March 3 in Tremonton, Utah.

Mrs. Toshi Kashiwagi on March 8 in Milwaukee, Wis.

Masakichi Kobata (36-3-D, Rivers) on March 7.

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Washington War Fund Solves Clerical Problem with Nisei

NEW YORK — How the Washington, D. C., Community War Fund solved its clerical problem by hiring 15 Japanese Americans — "among the best employees the fund has had" — through WRA is described in an article entitled "Need More Help?" in a recent issue of "Community," the national bulletin of Community Chests and Councils, Inc.

The article points out that "as the shortage of office help is by no means limited to Washington and to campaign time, other agencies may find this suggestion worth considering. . . ."

Other excerpts follow: "First to arrive in the morning, last to leave in the evening, the Nisei girls made every day a

working day and immediately won the highest esteem of the whole organization for their efficiency," according to Herbert L. Willett, Jr., executive director of the War Fund and director of Washington's Community Chest.

"Have the girls met antagonism in D. C.? 'None whatever,' and they're surprised, they'll tell you. They had expected a lot of it. . . ."

"Washington's Fund would like to continue employment of the Japanese American girls and has attempted to hire them on a permanent basis. However, for most of them employment with the fund has been temporary while Civil Service papers were being cleared for their employment by the government. . . ."

Legion Official Denounces Hate Campaign Against Nisei

NEW YORK—Persons who stir up prejudice against Japanese Americans were denounced as "preachers of hate" serving Hitler's purposes in a letter recently received by Leo T. Simmons, acting relocation supervisor of the Middle Atlantic Area, from Adjutant Marshal G. Staub of the American Legion's Captain Belvedere Brooks Post No. 450 in New York City.

A few weeks ago Adjutant Staub's post invited to membership the Nisei soldiers whose names were removed by the Hood River, Ore., post from its county honor roll.

In his letter Adputant Staub also declared that Japanese Americans "are doing their part for the nation that our forefathers built" and that "their ancestry is . . . not to held against them."

Following are excerpts from Adjutant Staub's letter to Mr. Simmons:

"By our prejudice here at home we are not keeping faith with our men overseas who are . . . fighting and dying to destroy tyranny, oppression, prejudice, and intolerance. What they are fighting to rid the world of, we are building up on the home front.

"Long years before the war in Europe began, Hitler planned his conquest by technique of Divide and Conquer—a simple yet deadly means of creating internal strife within a nation. . . . With race, color, creeds and political beliefs pitted against one another, it was simple for the Nazi blitz to overrun Europe. Hitler also had plans for the United States. His preachers of hate have been working here, and this present Japanese American prejudice program could be starting point in his plans for America, plans which cannot materialize in this war, but which could be ripe if Germany gain arms.

"The United States of America was built upon the blood, souls, sweat, and tears of men and women of all races, creeds, and colors, each doing his part to make . . . America great and free. While it is true that the Japanese Americans are a new element, it must be remembered that they are now doing their part for the nation that our forefathers built. They are Americans now, their ancestry is in the background, and not to be held against them. . . ."

Florence Akiyama (3-14-A, Rivers) on March 7.
Suyesako Matsumoto, 68 (327-8-B, Poston) on March 9.
Robert Akiyama, 68 (207-14-E, Poston) on March 9.

MARRIAGES

Asako Maida to T/5 Shiro Tokuno on Feb. 17 in Minneapolis.

Lucille Yoshiko Nitta to George T. Watanabe on March 3 at Hunt, Idaho.

Kimiko Tani to Frank Nakaba on March 3 at Billings.

Miyoko Miyauchi to Bryan Honkawa on March 3 at Billings.

Toshiko Honkawa to Kaz Uriu March 3 at Billings.

Yoshiko Uchiyama to Pvt. George Tani on Feb. 10 at Fort Snelling, Minn.

Shizuko Sally Yamamoto to Esamu Muranaka on March 8 at Rivers, Ariz.

Marie Kishiyama to Teddy Koseki in Denver on March 11.

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Federal Judge Turns Down Dismissal Bid in Ogden Case

OGDEN, Utah—Declaring that "a case of this kind must be tried," Federal Judge Tillman D. Johnson on March 12 denied a motion to dismiss the case of Mrs. Verda Hulse and George T. Sugihara against officials of the City of Ogden.

The Ogden officials, Mayor David S. Romney, Commissioners William D. Wood and Harold L. Welch, City Recorder Elizabeth Tillotson and City Attorney Derah B. Van Dyke, are charged by the plaintiffs with depriving them of their citizenship rights by refusing them a business license because of Sugihara's Japanese ancestry.

The City of Ogden has maintained a policy of refusing to grant business licenses to persons of Japanese ancestry.

The plea for dismissal had been entered by counsel for the City of Ogden.

Arguments on an order to show cause why Ogden City refuses to grant a business license to Mrs. Hulse and Mr. Sugihara, operators of the Green Parrot Cafe, were continued until the next session of the court in Ogden.

Judge Johnson issued a restraining order to prevent Ogden City from proceeding in its case against Mrs. Hulse and Sugihara, who are charged with operating a place of business without a city license, pending results of the trial in Federal court.

Fresno Committee Expresses Concern On Evacuee Housing

FRESNO, Calif. — The Fresno Emergency Housing Committee voted March 6 to make inquiries of the Federal government concerning what provisions, if any, have been or are being made to provide housing for returning evacuees of Japanese ancestry who do not own their own homes.

Some members of the committee suggested the government be urged to allot temporary units of the portable type to Fresno county for the specific purpose of sheltering the homecoming evacuees.

The committee emphasized, however, it believes adequate housing for the families of soldiers and

Final Rites Held In Milwaukee for Mrs. Kashiwagi

MILWAUKEE, Wis.—Funeral services for Mrs. Toshi Kashiwagi were held at the Grace Baptist Church on March 11, with the Reverend Clayton F. Smith, pastor, officiating. The main auditorium of the church was filled almost to capacity with relatives and friends.

Taken ill after tasting home-canned mushrooms despite her daughter-in-law's warning they were spoiled, Mrs. Kashiwagi, who had been making her home with her son Rio and his family, died March 8 at the County Emergency Hospital. An autopsy by the medical examiner's office showed death was due to acute gastroenteritis, caused by the mushrooms and pneumonia.

Mrs. Kashiwagi, a former resident of Seattle and Minidoka, came to Milwaukee six months ago from Denver, Colorado. Besides her husband, Yojo Kashiwagi, and her son Rio, she is survived by three daughters, Mrs. M. Kaneko, Mrs. George Isoda, Mrs. Woodrow Nishitani, all of Milwaukee; and two other sons, Mitsuo Kashiwagi, Seattle, and Shunji Kashiwagi, Denver.

St. Louis Soldiers Receive Citations

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—Two St. Louis soldiers of Japanese ancestry have received citations for "outstanding bravery," the Globe-Democrat reported on March 7.

The newspaper said that Pvt. John J. Sakai, husband of Mrs. Marcie Sakai of 3950 McPherson St., and Pfc. Mitsuo Saito, formerly of 114A South Tenth St., had been given the Distinguished Unit Citation with cluster for the second presidential citation awarded to their Japanese American battalion. Both of the soldiers have been awarded the Purple Heart.

war workers must come first and any provision for the returning evacuees be in addition to that for the others.

Japanese American Artillery Unit Active in French Alps

Provides Protective Fire for Nisei Patrols On Franco-Italian Border

SIXTH ARMY GROUP IN FRANCE—Still the great killer of the enemy and at the same time the protector of its own infantry, a Field Artillery Battalion of the 442nd Japanese American Regiment is dropping accurate, sustained and concentrated fire on German personnel, defenses and other targets in the French Alps along the Franco-Italian border.

As part of Lt. Gen. Jacobs L. Devers' 6th Army Group, the battalion is providing protective fire for infantry patrols working their way through the mountain passes into German positions by demolishing enemy resistance and attempted ambushes.

In the treacherous mountain terrain, forward observers have a grave and tough responsibility. They must spot enemy concentrations, machine gun emplacements, mortars, road-blocks, artillery and anything else that might hinder the advancing patrols. Then they must request and direct artillery fire upon those objectives, regulating the accuracy and amount of fire.

The accuracy of the battalion's fire is second to none. In the Italian campaign, during the battle for a strategic hill near the "Little Cassino" line north of Rome, the battalion accounted for more than 75 per cent of the enemy casualties. An artillery officer visited the battleground later and found more than 120 dead Germans, all killed by artillery, within a circle of 200 yards. Other experts described it as "the best firing we have ever seen."

Carrying its well-established reputation from Italy to France, the battalion contributed much to the 442nd's rescue of the now-famous "Lost Battalion" of the 36th Division. Not only did it support the infantry continuously, but its forward observers also played a big part in the dramatic rescue. One observer led a platoon of doughboys up a heavily defended slope and helped rout the Nazis from that key position. Two other forward observers were among the first to reach the Lost Battalion. The Field Artillery unit has fired more than 75,000 rounds since going into action.

Vancouver Paper Says Deportation Talk Is Futile

VANCOUVER, B. C.—The Vancouver Province, leading British Columbia daily, editorially castigated on March 2 agitation for post-war expulsion of persons of Japanese ancestry from the Dominion of Canada, declaring that "it is futile to talk of sending Canada's Japanese to Japan as it would be to make plans for locating them on Mars."

The Province called for a more practical approach, urging that "the organizations—and the politicians, too—interesting themselves in clearing up the Japanese mess would achieve more if they would seek out a solution that has some possibility of adoption, instead of grasping at impossibilities."

The newspaper pointed out that British Columbia cannot carry out a deportation policy when the United States is following a different course, Russia is consolidating racial groups within the Soviet, and Great Britain is likely to be cautious.

Salt Lake Team Wins Annual JACL Basketball Tourney

Salt Lake's Harlem A. C. won the annual Intermountain Nisei basketball tournament, sponsored by the Salt Lake JACL, by defeating Topaz high school, 29 to 27, in the finals on March 10 at Westminster college.

Harlem Sano was high scorer with 14 points. In the consolation round the Topaz All-Stars trounced the Salt Lake Bussei, 56 to 22.

The best game of the tournament was played in the semi-final round on March 9 when Topaz high school nipped the Denver Downtown Merchants, 43 to 41, in the second overtime period.

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Hood River Group Cancels Protest Meet

Meeting Had Been Planned to Demand Names Be Restored

HOOD RIVER, Ore.—The sequel to the action of the Hood River Post No. 22 of the American Legion in voting to restore the names of 15 American soldiers of Japanese ancestry to the country war memorial was reported this week in the announced cancellation of a scheduled meeting of a group of leading citizens of the Hood River Valley to demand that the names be restored.

It was announced that the meeting had been cancelled because the Legion post's action had not what was desired by the group.

The Legion post, however, has strongly reiterated its opposition to the return of evacuees to Hood River Valley.

In an address here last week before the Hood River Rotary club, Harold S. Fistere, area supervisor of the War Relocation Authority, stated that the government agency would protect the constitutional rights of returning Americans of Japanese ancestry.

Fistere explained the WRA's policies in regard to Japanese American evacuees.

Returned Evacuee Applies for State Civil Service Job

SACRAMENTO — The State Personnel Board this week investigated the first application by a returned Japanese American for a civil service job.

Ruby Yoneko Kobata, 25, of 2029 Capitol Ave., was listed as an applicant for an examination as junior clerk.

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