



Seventh Citation Given Nisei Combat Unit

California Supreme Court Will Hear Oyama Test Case On Alien Land Act June 10

Brief Upholding Anti-Alien Law Filed by County Attorneys Who Assert Segregation of Aliens Under Legislation Is Constitutional Action

LOS ANGELES—The Oyama case, testing the constitutionality of the California anti-alien land law, will be considered by the California State Supreme Court on June 10, it was reported here this week.

Briefs in the case have been filed by the Attorney General of the State of California, as well as by many attorneys.

The Attorney General's brief, signed by Everett W. Mattoon, who is in charge of alien land law prosecutions for the State

Department of Justice, is also presented over the signatures of the following county district attorneys: James M. Thuesen, Fresno; Charles G. Halliday, Imperial; Norbert Baumgarten, Kern; Fred N. Howser, Los Angeles; Everett A. Coffee, Madera; Anthony Brail, Monterey; Clarence H. Tindall, Placer; Earl Redwine, Riverside; Herbert C. Grundell, San Luis Obispo; Lawrence M. Parma, Santa Barbara; Charles J. McGoldrick, Sonoma; Walter C. Haight, Tulare; M. Arthur Waite, Ventura; and Joel E. Ofle, county counsel of Orange.

A brief upholding the validity of the State law also has been filed as a friend of court and countersigned by the following county attorneys: Edmund G. Brown, San Francisco; John Quincy Brown, Sacramento; Ralph E. Hoyt, Alameda; Leonard R. Avilla, Santa Clara; Charles J. McGoldrick, Sonoma; Gilbert D. Farrell, San Mateo; James E. Busch, Mendocino; A. E. Bagshaw, Marin; J. M. McPherson, Butte; Robert H. Schwab, Yolo; Burt W. Busch, Lake; Edwin J. Regan, Trinity; and Clyde H. Larimer, Glenn.

The latter brief, prepared by Chester E. Watson, district attorney for San Joaquin county, argues that the "segregation" of aliens under the law is "constitutional."

A brief as a friend of court already has been filed for the Civil Rights Defense Union of Northern California by Attorneys Purcell and Ferriter.

A further brief as a friend of court, urging that the law is unconstitutional, will be filed by the American Civil Liberties Union, the National Japanese American Citizens League and other cooperating organizations.

A reply brief is being prepared by A. L. Wirin, John Maeno and B. Tietz, who represent the Oyama family.

The friend of court brief of the

San Joaquin county attorney, which argues the legality of the anti-alien land act, notes that the decision of the California Supreme Court in the Oyama case will affect parcels of land in San Joaquin county which are of an estimated value of "over a million dollars" and further states "that a decision in this case might well remove from the coffers of the various counties and State a sum aggregating several million dollars."

AVC Protests Agency's Haste In Deportation

California Veterans Group Asks for Stay Pending Court Appeals

LOS ANGELES — The California State Council of the American Veterans Committee this week challenged the "unseemly haste" of the Justice Department in current deportation activities against persons of Japanese ancestry and asked, in telegrams to Attorney General Tom Clark and Rep. Helen Gabagan Douglas for a stay of such deportations pending court decision.

The telegrams were signed by John Sheppard, Hollywood film actor who was elected president of the California AVC at the first State convention two weeks ago.

"The California State Council of the AVC strongly resents on behalf of all Nisei veterans the racial implications of your unseemly haste in current deportation activities against persons of Japanese ancestry," Mr. Sheppard said in his telegram to Attorney General Clark.

Returned Evacuee Files Suit To Test Alien Fishing Ban

Petition Declares California Law Is Racially Discriminatory

LOS ANGELES—A petition for writ of mandamus was filed on May 6 in behalf of Torao Takahashi against the California Fish and Game Commission in the Los Angeles Superior Court. It is set for hearing before Superior Court Judge Henry M. Willis for May 13.

The petition recites that the recent amendment to the California Fish and Game Code, prohibiting Nisei from fishing, is unconstitutional "because enacted for the purpose and administered in a manner to discriminate against persons, including the petitioner, solely because of his race. It denies the petitioner liberty and property in violation of due process of law under the California Constitution as guaranteed in Art. Section 13, and by the XIVth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States; and additionally denies the petitioner the equal protection of the laws under said XIVth Amendment."

Attorneys Wirin, Maeno and Tietz represent Takahashi. According to the petition, Takahashi "has qualified to obtain a fishing license within all of the requirements of the California Fish and Game Code, and particularly with Chapter V thereof, dealing with 'Commercial Fishing Regulations,' in every respect and particular, except only that he is a person of Japanese descent.

"He has no other occupation except that of commercial fishing; upon his return to California, he attempted to secure other employment, and has been unable to do so.

"The petitioner's two sons, Kenichi and Fumio, served in the United States Army. The former is now in Japan, and has been overseas since November, 1945; in addition his two sons-in-law are in the Service, Lieutenant R. G. Nonoshita and Corporal Mas Hira-shima, the latter having volunteered in January, 1942, served overseas one year in the Air Corps and was wounded and received a Purple Heart, and also an oak-leaf cluster."

Pulitzer Prize Given Editor for Editorial on Nisei

NEW YORK—Hodding Carter, editor and publisher of the Delta Democrat Times, Greenville, Miss., was awarded the Pulitzer prize for distinguished editorial writing for a group of editorials published in 1945 "on the subject of racial, religious and economic tolerance as exemplified by the editorial 'Go for Broke' published Aug. 28, 1945."

The editorial was written on the subject of American soldiers of Japanese ancestry. "Go for Broke" was the regimental motto of the famous 442nd (Japanese American) Combat Team which was trained at Camp Shelby, Miss. The expression is Hawaiian-Japanese slang for "shoot the works" and symbolized the attitude of Nisei troops in the Italian campaign.

Carter, a war veteran, is the author of a novel on Southern race relations which was published in 1945.

Nisei Soldier Killed in Japan Jeep Accident

TOKYO—Funeral services for Pfc. Tokiwo Murakami, 21, of Montebello, California, were held Thursday, April 25 at the Allied Forces cemetery south of Yokohama.

Pfc. Murakami, suffering severe internal injuries sustained in a jeep accident on April 21, passed away on April 22 at the 42nd General hospital.

T/4 Shirayasu Ushijima and T/4 Hiroshi Watanabe, who were the other occupants of the vehicle, escaped uninjured.

Pfc. Murakami was thrown clear of the jeep when the driver lost control on a rough road and was pinned between a tree and the car. He was immediately taken to the 376 Station hospital and later transferred to the 42nd, where he passed away the following morning.

He is survived by his parents, two sisters and two brothers.

Escheat Suits Filed by State In Fresno Area

FRESNO—Two suits seeking to escheat property owned by Japanese Americans in the Selma and Sanger districts were filed in Fresno on May 6 against Takei and Natsuye Iwamura and their two children, Akire Iwamura and Mary Iwamura Abe.

The property involved is a 60-acre parcel on South avenue, south of Sanger and 40 acres on Dinuba avenue northwest of Selma.

The complaint against the Iwamuras charges that the properties were placed in the name of the children but were in fact controlled and operated for the benefit of the parents, who are barred from owning property by the anti-alien land act.

The Sanger property was acquired February 11, 1919, and title to the Dinuba avenue parcel was obtained February 9, 1938, though through a prior transaction the Iwamura family actually took possession of the land on Jan. 24, 1938.

The Iwamuras are accused of acquiring the Dinuba avenue acreage in a three-way transaction in which Walter Sanada took title to the property on Jan. 24, 1938. The property was later transferred to Akire Iwamura on Feb. 9, the complaint charges.

The Sanger property, according to the complaint, was purchased from C. A. and Rebecca Weatherly and title placed in the name of the daughter.

Japanese American Regiment Honored for Role in Opening Final Offensive in Italy

War Department Notes 442nd Infantry Turned Diversionary Attack into Full-Scale Offensive, Playing Important Role in Final Rout of Nazis

LEGHORN, Italy—The 442nd (Japanese American) Regimental Combat Team, the most decorated unit in American military history in relation to time served overseas, has been notified by the War Department that it has been awarded a presidential Distinguished Unit Citation for its role in spearheading the final offensive of the Italian campaign in April, 1945.

The citation was awarded to the entire Combat Team with the exception of the 522nd Field Artillery battalion, then fighting

in southern Germany with the Third Army. The award marked one of the few instances in which a unit of regimental strength has been honored with a citation.

The award was made to the 442nd Combat Team specifically for "gallantry and determination that set it apart and above other units participating in the battles for Seravessa, Carrara and Fosdinova, Italy" from April 5 to April 14, 1945, according to the War Department announcement.

This is the seventh Distinguished Unit Citation earned by elements of the 442nd Combat Team.

The citation honoring the Japanese American combat unit recalled the part played by the Nisei in the general offensive which ended the war in Italy. The War Department declared that the Nisei had accomplished their mission of creating a diversion along the Ligurian coast of Italy which served as a feint for the subsequent break-through of Fifth Army forces into Bologna and the Po Valley and that the Japanese Americans attacked "with such skill and daring that the enemy was compelled to divert part of his desperately needed central reserve to meet this thrust."

The Japanese Americans, according to the War Department, executed "a daring and skillful flanking attack on the positions which formed the western anchor of the formidable Gothic line, an attack which necessitated that the striking force of the Combat Team climb for hours over precipitous terrain and launch an attack without rest or reorganization."

Positions which had withstood the best efforts of Allied units for five months were overrun and completely destroyed by the 442nd Combat Team in four days.

"This was accomplished in the face of skilled enemy troops who were nearly equal in strength to the attacking forces and who had had at least five months to improve their positions, located on formidable and tactically sound natural barriers," the War Department announced. "Then, although their casualties had been heavy and the action had been physically exhausting, the 442nd Combat Team pressed forward, al-

lowing the retreating enemy no time for rest or reorganization, liberated the city of Carrara, seized the heights beyond and opened the way for further advances on the key road center and port of La Spezia and, later, Genoa."

In ten days' fighting the 442nd Combat Team had advanced 15 miles, captured 504 prisoners, killed 307 of the enemy and probably wounded or killed an additional 250.

The Japanese American unit suffered losses of 56 killed and 247 wounded in action.

"By successfully accomplishing this mission, the 442nd Combat Team turned an action which had been ordered as a diversionary attack into a full-scale offensive which played an important part in the final destruction of the German armies in Italy," the citation declared.

"The gallantry and esprit de corps displayed by the officers and men of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team against a formidable enemy and great natural obstacles exemplify the finest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States."

The Distinguished Unit Citation has been awarded to Companies F and L of the Combat Team for their part in the O'Connor Task Force which pierced the German main line of resistance in the Vosges mountains, to the 100th Battalion for action at Belvedere in northern Italy and another citation to the same unit for their part in the fighting in the Biffontaine and Bruyeres sector in France, to the Second battalion for the Po Valley drive, to the 3rd battalion for the rescue of the "lost battalion" of the 36th (Texas) Division in northeastern France and to the 232 Engineers company.

Hisako Kido Named Nyssa Valedictorian

NYSSA, Ore.—Hisako Kido of the senior class at Nyssa high school has been named valedictorian for the graduating group.

Miss Kido has been active in student extracurricular affairs.

MIS Language School Will Be Moved to Presidio at Monterey

Thousands of Nisei Linguists Trained At Fort Snelling

FORT SNELLING, Minn.—The Military Intelligence Service Language School, which has trained more than 5,000 Japanese Americans for special service in the Pacific theater, will be transferred to the Presidio at Monterey, Calif., sometime in June, Col. Kai E. Rasmussen announced last week.

The MIS language school, which still has a large complement of Japanese American soldiers, was organized at the Presidio of San Francisco on Nov. 1, 1941. Following the evacuation of persons of

Japanese ancestry from the West Coast in 1942 the school was moved to Camp Savage, Minn., and later transferred to Fort Snelling.

During its peak at Fort Snelling, the school trained more than 3,000 linguists, most of them Japanese Americans, who played an important role in the Pacific victory.

Although the war is over, the needs of occupation forces in Japan require the maintenance of the school and a substantial number of Japanese Americans are still receiving training.

Most of the members of the faculty of MIS were also of Japanese ancestry, including both civilians and Army personnel.

With the 442nd Infantry: Nisei Basketball Team Plays Series in Northern Italy

(This is the second and concluding part of an article by John Ito of the 442nd Combat Team, describing the recent trip of the 442nd's basketball squad to northern Italy.)

(Continued from last week)

The third game of the northern barnstorming tour was played against the 313th Medic Battalion of the 88th Division. In this contest the hoopsters of the 442nd humbled their hospitable hosts to the tune of 67 to 35. It was with over-confidence that the Medics met the Japanese Americans though they were aware of the fine record established by the 442nd cagers in the Leghorn Area but it was with complete surprise that they received the ability of the comparatively short Nisei to rule both backboards. All the spectators that witnessed the game including Signorina Zena Dakow, the Chinese Italian girl, rooted for the agile Nisei cagers who defeated their adversaries with teamwork the likes of which was never seen before on that court. So humbled were the Medics that they challenged the 442nd basketball team to a game of softball for the following day. The Nisei cagers displayed their thorough knowledge of all American sports and their ability to play them by holding down the All Star Medics 6 to 6 in seven innings of thrilling softball and so twice did the Japanese Americans of the 442nd astound their northern hosts.

After the three games played in Udine and Cividale the 442nd basketball team was cordially invited to stay at the 88th Division Rest camp in Cortina for two days as guests of the Division. Cortina is a winter resort town situated high in the Italian Dolomines near the Austrian border. In pre-war days this town was visited by tourists and winter sports enthusiasts from throughout the world. On the first day the boys went skiing or rather sliding which is more descriptive and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Most of the boys from Hawaii having never seen snow before laughingly had their pictures taken while knee deep in snow to impress their folks back home. In this peaceful village surrounded by high snow-capped mountains the boys of the basketball team were housed in a magnificent hotel which offered all the comforts of home. Many were the pangs of nostalgia suffered by the boys as they lay in their soft beds between clean white sheets during those silent minutes before sleep. On the second day, after the first had ended too quickly to suit them, the boys went on sightseeing tours and took cable car rides to the summits of the highest peaks that surround Cortina, in the evening they attended the dance held nightly at the hotel en masse only to be reminded of home once again by the strains of the sentimental American ballads which they related to cherished occasions in the past.

From Cortina the 442nd basketball team journeyed to Trieste to play a three game series against the 349th Infantry Regiment of the 88th Division, the basketball champions of that Division. The country between Cortina and Trieste was rugged and sparsely settled but in the valleys and flatlands that were inhabited there were to be seen the flags and banners of both factions vying for the possession of Venezia Giulia. In Trieste the boys billeted at the 1st Battalion Command Post of the 349th Infantry Regiment. While walking around town sightseeing the cagers picked up a lot of "hot rumors" about the Venezia Giulia situation. Some of the rumors sounded logical but many of them were so fantastic as to be humorous. That Trieste was a valuable prize could easily be seen as the party of basketball players walked along the waterfront. There was no need for extensive geographical knowledge to realize its strategic location and the wealth it could garner its controller. Tired by their journey and sightseeing the boys retired early to rest for the game on the morning in Gorizia.

The first of the three game series was to be played in Gorizia, a town fifty kilometers southwest of Trieste. Two weeks before this town was the scene of a mass demonstration for both the Italians and the Yugoslavs. Into this town went the cagers of the 442nd, again to be called "Chinese" by

the local citizens. The boys visited the American Red Cross in town to have some ice cream and cookies before going to the 88th Division Sport Center gym where the game was to be played. Most GIs take the American Red Cross for granted and do not think of anything beyond the deliciousness of the ice cream and coke served them on a hot day by the Red Cross but with a little thought should come the realization that the American Red Cross is a splendid organization and is performing invaluable services overseas. Wherever American soldiers are stationed over here in Italy one is sure to find the American Red Cross and the indefatigable personnel of this great institution is ready to lend a helping hand.

The game that evening was 442nd all the way from start to finish although the Nisei cagers were as always towered over by their worthy opponents. It was a faultlessly played game on the part of the 442nd casaba men as passes and shots hit their marks accurately, the perfection and the effect of it was disheartening to the courtmen of the 349th Infantry and in a vain effort to stop the visitors their defense fell to pieces. As the whistle blew ending the contest the count was 442nd 64, 349th Infantry 53.

Returning to Trieste that night the cagers of the 442nd talked over the game and planned for the second game of the series that was to be played the following night at the American Red Cross in Trieste. On the day of the second game the boys lollered around the Red Cross and talked with school children that happened to pass by. One group of Yugoslavian children that came along had school books with large pictures of Marshal Tito inside the cover while the book itself dealt with German atrocities and Partisan heroism. The Nisei gave the faultless children some chewing gum and bid them goodbye in order to make ready for the evening's game.

That evening the 442nd suffered its first defeat of the tour by being trounced to the tune of 61 to 37. With two of their mainstays returning from the 88th Division All Star team that had been playing elsewhere the 349th Infantry quintet of the 88th Division proved too much for the Nisei cagers. A center of the 349th Infantry who was tall as well as deceptive just couldn't be stopped and personally accounted for twenty of the opponents' points. The loss of the game evened the series with one win and one loss for both teams.

In the final game of the series the next evening the boys of the 442nd went out on the court as underdogs, having lost the previous night's game by more than twenty points. The third and last game meant a lot to the boys for it was Army Day and they wanted to win the game for Colonel Virgil R. Miller, CO of the 442nd Infantry Regiment. From the moment the whistle blew starting the thrilling game the outcome of the game was known to the boys on the bench for they knew that their comrades on the court were going for broke that evening. The mainland boys of the team were playing doubly hard for their teammates from Hawaii who had learned just the day before of the huge tidal waves that hit the islands.

The game was nip and tuck until the third quarter with the 442nd cagers always on top by a margin of three or four points but from the beginning of the fourth it was 442nd until the final whistle as the Nisei cagers increased the margin with their faultless teamwork. As the game ended the scoreboard read 442nd Infantry 47, 349th Infantry 35. Arm in arm walked the 442nd "Go For Broke" boys to the locker room after winning the game on Army Day for their Colonel. The mainland boys were content and jovious, too, with the thought that the victory may have lifted the spirit of their comrades from Hawaii. Our opponents' great center who had scored twenty points the night before was held down with only two behind his name. The underdogs won the series, the team that had lost the night before by a margin

442nd Cagemen in Action



LEGHORN, Italy—Little Pfc. Frank Ichimoto from Sacramento, Calif., wearing the white shirt with the number "3", goes high into the air after a free ball in a recent game in which the 442nd Regiment defeated the 349th Infantry, 64 to 53. Other Nisei players are (left to right), Number "11", First Sgt. Tom Harimoto, Honolulu, and Number "5", First Sgt. Roy Suzuki, Seattle Washington.

Gen. Bradley Will Urge Use Of Minority Group Personnel By Veterans Administration

Decision Follows
Washington Conference
With Special Committee

CHICAGO — General Omar N. Bradley, administrator of veterans' affairs, has agreed to issue a policy statement to all regional administrators urging appointment of minority group personnel as training and field contact officers in the Veterans Administration, the American Council on Race Relations reported on May 10.

General Bradley's agreement to the new hiring policy in Veterans Administration was secured by a special committee appointed from the recent national emergency conference on minority veterans problems called by the American Council on Race Relations in New York City in which 38 national organizations participated, including the National JACL.

Speaking for the committee, A. A. Liveright, executive director of the American Council, said, "The use of Negro, Japanese American and Mexican American personnel as training and field contact officers would provide the Veterans Administration a real op-

portunity to deal with the special problems affecting minority groups in apprenticeship and on-the-job training programs." Other members of the committee included Charles Bolte, national commander of the American Veterans Committee; George Mitchell, veterans advisor to the Southern Regional Council; Ben Kuroki, outstanding Nisei war hero, representing the JACL; and Myer Friedman, CIO veterans' representative. The issue of discrimination and segregation in veterans' hospitals and veterans' facilities was presented by the committee. Both General Bradley and Paul Hawley, chief medical director, stated that the Veterans Administration could not depart from community patterns too rapidly. In answer to this, members of the committee cited instances where Veterans Administrations had refused approval of appointments of Negroes to the staffs of facilities where local approval had already been obtained. The special problems of Filipino veterans were also brought up for discussion. General Bradley assured the committee that legislation is now being prepared to remedy the condition which prohibits Filipino veterans from securing benefits for anything but service-connected disability.

Nisei Veteran Will Attend AVC National Meeting

SEATTLE—Mac Nishimoto will be one of the four delegates from Seattle chapter No. 3 of the American Veterans Committee to the AVC's first national constitutional convention in Des Moines, Ia., in June. Nishimoto is expected to be one of several Nisei veterans who will attend the national AVC convention as delegates.

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"From now on," Mr. Edmiston said, "the problem is one for each community to assume. We leave to the good people of Palo Alto the unsolved problems of reintegration of this dislocated group. We know from experience they are in good hands."

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Denver Nisei Win Honors

DENVER—Two Denver Nisei, Roy Isao Iritani and Henry Okubo, were among those honored recently for being among the upper 10 per cent of their classes at the Colorado A and M college at Fort Collins.

San Jose WRA Aided 6400 Of Returnees

Community Agencies
To Take Up Work as
WRA Office Closes

SAN JOSE, Calif.—The last district office of the War Relocation Authority, the San Jose office, closed Saturday, May 4, after resettling a higher percentage of Japanese Americans than any other office, 6400 compared to 3000 in the area before the war, the Mercury Herald reported on May 5.

James Edmiston, district supervisor, announced that 100 applications for workers to perform agricultural work were still on hand.

In the future Japanese American workers will be placed through the USES, the Farm Labor office and the Progressive Growers, Inc. The last named, Edmiston said, is opening an office for farm workers at the corner of Post and Vine streets. Councils for Civic Unity in San Jose, Mountain View and Palo Alto have formed committees throughout the county to aid Japanese Americans.

A dinner honoring Edmiston's efforts in behalf of the Japanese Americans was held Tuesday, May 7, by the Japanese American Citizens League.

WRA Official Hails Palo Alto Aid to Evacuees

PALO ALTO, Calif.—No city has done a more complete job than Palo Alto of helping returned evacuees of Japanese ancestry re-instate themselves in the community, James E. Edmiston, district relocation supervisor for the War Relocation Authority, told the Times on May 6.

The WRA closed its district office in San Jose on May 4 after resettling a higher percentage of Nisei than any other district office in the United States. More than 300 domestic workers were employed in the Palo Alto area alone, according to Mr. Edmiston.

As he closed up his WRA work, Mr. Edmiston took occasion to express his appreciation of Palo Alto's part in re-assimilating the Japanese Americans.

He credited the success of his office to the cooperation of the newspapers and "the assistance of those stalwart Christians who recognize that human beings can be wrapped in pigmented skins."

"No city," he continued, "has done a more complete job than Palo Alto. While we congratulate your paper, won't you allow us to express our sincere thanks to your city government in all of its branches, to Stanford University and to the good citizens who contributed so much so willingly toward making democracy work in Santa Clara county."

"From now on," Mr. Edmiston said, "the problem is one for each community to assume. We leave to the good people of Palo Alto the unsolved problems of reintegration of this dislocated group. We know from experience they are in good hands."

Masao Satow Will Take Part in Social Work Panel

NEW YORK — Masao Satow, special eastern representative of the National JACL, will appear on a panel for the Methods of Social Action section of the National Conference on Social Work on May 11 at Buffalo.

Mr. Satow will present the JACL's views on the subject, "Dealing with Interracial and Intercultural Tensions."

Masao Satow represented the JACL at the final meeting of the National Japanese American Student Relocation Council on May 4 at Buffalo.

Nisei Student Gives Recital in Boise

BOISE, Idaho—June Oda, pianist, who will receive a degree in music in June, was presented in a graduation recital on April 29 at the Boise Junior college auditorium.

Colorado Nisei Cited for Rescue Of Trapped Unit

Silver Star Awarded
Fort Lupton Sergeant
At Italy Ceremonies

PENINSULAR BASE SECTION HEADQUARTERS, LEGHORN, Italy—Staff Sergeant Takashi Uyeno, Fort Lupton, Colorado, was recently awarded the Silver Star for facilitating the rescue of a trapped platoon at an informal award ceremony at the 442nd Japanese American Combat Team's headquarters in Leghorn, Italy. Colonel Virgil R. Miller, Winneconne, Wisconsin, commander of the famed Nisei outfit, made the presentation while First Lieut. Thomas M. Kobayashi, Phoenix, Arizona, regimental adjutant, read the official citation.

The gallant action for which he was cited occurred in the vicinity of Casala, Italy, exactly a year ago this month, when the Combat Team spearheaded the Allied Offensive in the final phase of the war in Italy. This "little task force," the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, also saw action in the Rome to Arno River Drive, the Rhineland Campaign, North Apennines, and guarded the Franco-Italian border along the French Maritime Alps.

When his comrades were trapped in a nearby house which was harassed by molting enemy fire, Sergeant Uyeno and two fellow soldiers disassembled their machine gun and attempted to dash over exposed ground to a secondary position. The Germans immediately laid grazing fire which seriously wounded them. Sergeant Uyeno, with two wounded buddies lying helpless beside him, hastily set up the machine gun on the open terrain and began exchanging fire.

His citation reads in part: "In the firefight Sergeant Uyeno succeeded in pinning down a large enemy force until a rescue was effected. By his heroic and gallant action Staff Sergeant Takashi Uyeno not only accounted for many Germans killed and wounded, but facilitated the rescue of the entire platoon."

Sergeant Uyeno was inducted into the Army on August 22, 1944 and came overseas in January 1945 when the 442nd was assigned to a relatively quiet sector after the bitter and epic campaign in the Vosges Mountains of northeastern France.

His mother, Mrs. Masumi Uyeno, resides at Fort Lupton, Colorado.

Young Buddhists To Hold Conference In Chicago

CHICAGO—The Eastern Young Buddhists League will hold a conference May 31-June 2 in Chicago with the Midwest Buddhist Church as the sponsoring chapter, according to the Midwest Dharma. The conference will lay plans for the future of Buddhism in the United States and the coordination of activities.

"Tokyo Rose" May Escape Trial, Reports Chicago Sun Writer

No charges have been preferred against Iva Toguri, better known as "Tokyo Rose," and "none ever will be," responsible officials can persuade themselves they will not be universally condemned for freeing her, Mark Gayn, Tokyo correspondent of the Chicago Sun-Forum Service, reported on May 5.

Gayn said that Allied prosecutors feel they would have a difficult time making charges stick against Miss Toguri, because broadcasting prepared propaganda was not regarded as a war crime.

It is also thought charges of treason against Miss Toguri could be defeated easily by her mere claim she had renounced her American citizenship before taking up the work of broadcasting.

Miss Toguri is now in the eighth month of her stay in Sugamo prison, a victim of circumstances, Gayn said.

The Chicago Sun correspondent stated that "Tokyo Rose" owes her stay at Sugamo prison to an unhappy chain of circumstances which at first seemed pure luck for

Mother Receives Son's Medal



SAN FRANCISCO—General Joseph W. Stilwell, former China-Burma commander and now leading the Sixth Army, is shown presenting the posthumous Bronze Star, awarded to Pfc. Cooper T. Tahara, to the Nisei hero's mother, Mrs. Kumakichi Tahara of Florin, Calif., at the San Francisco JACL dinner on May 7 at the Hotel Whitcomb. According to the War Department citation which was read at the dinner, the Bronze Star was awarded Pfc. Tahara "for heroic achievement" on Nov. 5, 1944, during an advance near La Houssiere, France. Pfc. Tahara's company was pinned down by enemy machine gun fire from two concealed emplacements. With deadly automatic rifle fire, he dispersed one crew and forced the other to abandon its position. When the enemy launched a fierce counter-attack the following morning, he vigorously defended an exposed flank of his company and stood his ground to cover withdrawing comrades until mortally wounded by hostile fire.—Photo courtesy of San Francisco News.

Air Borne Veterans Group Raps Discrimination Against Nisei by Ex-GI Organizations

SPOKANE, Wash.—The Air Borne Veterans of the United States, a World War II veterans organization with its national headquarters in Spokane, took unanimous action against discrimination toward any Nisei veterans for membership in the Air Borne if these Nisei are otherwise qualified for membership.

Sgt. Henry Norimatsu of Hood River, Ore., veteran of the famous 101st Air Borne Division's historic stand at Bastogne who is now en route to Japan to join the 11th Air Borne Division, is the first Nisei to join the new organization of veterans of air-borne units.

NISEI STUDENT WILL PARTICIPATE IN YOUTH WEEK

CHICAGO — Frank Matsumoto, Nisei high school student, will be one of Chicago's youths who have been named to take over the administration of the City of Chicago for one day as a feature to the celebration of Youth Week from May 13 to 18.

The young people will take the posts to which they were named on May 14. Matsumoto will act as city treasurer for the day.

Chicago's "city administration" for the day will also include two Negro youths, Gerald Mallory as fire commissioner and Donald Mosby as city clerk.

The action of the Air Borne Veterans against racial discrimination was taken as the Spokane post of Veterans of Foreign Wars, which received national publicity last year when it refused the membership applications of several combat veterans of Japanese ancestry, reaffirmed its opposition to Japanese American members.

Rock Hutchings, Spokane paratrooper veteran and one of the founders of the Air-Borne Veterans of the United States, said in Spokane on May 1 that rejection by any veterans organization of membership applications from Japanese American veterans "is a violation of the American way of life."

Hutchings indicated that the continued refusal of the Spokane VFW to accept into membership Japanese American veterans is being widely discussed by Spokane veterans.

"On V-J day 23,000 Japanese American soldiers were in service," the former paratrooper asserted. "Statistics show that Japanese Americans have the highest percentage of people in service of any minority group in the United States and Hawaii. Nearly 7000 Japanese American troops were in the Pacific and the China-Burma-India theater on V-J day."

"Japanese Americans were attached to every division, corps and army in every landing in the Pacific."

"These boys, I am told, are not acceptable to some veterans organizations and not acceptable to the public as a whole. If this is not a violation of the American way of life for which these boys and our boys fought, bled and died, I would like to know what is."

"Where did our ancestors come from? We are referred to as Americans whether our ancestry is German, Irish, Swedish, Dutch, French or English. The Japanese Americans should be given the same consideration."

Carr of Los Angeles recently made a trip to Washington in an effort to bring Miss Toguri to Los Angeles for trial.)

Gen. Joseph Stilwell Hails Japanese American Loyalty In Talk at JACL Dinner

SAN FRANCISCO—By their willingness to fight and if necessary to die for our country, Americans of Japanese ancestry have proved their right to enjoy every privilege and every opportunity of the American way of life, General Joseph W. Stilwell told a turn-away crowd of over three hundred in the Crystal Room of the Whitcomb hotel here Tuesday evening.

Speaking at a testimonial banquet sponsored by the San Francisco JACL chapter, General Stilwell frankly admitted that he

Canada Eases Ban Against Land Purchase

Japanese Canadians
Restricted During War
From Buying Land

WINNIPEG, Man.—Regulations which restricted Canadians of Japanese ancestry from purchasing land have been considerably eased, especially in eastern Canada, the New Canadian reported last week.

Japanese Canadian citizens may now make applications for the purchase of real property and application forms for the purpose are available.

The land restriction was instituted on Feb. 5, 1942, when the Canadian government issued an order that citizens of Japanese ancestry were required to obtain permits from the Minister of Justice before they could purchase or lease real property, except for leasing buildings for residential purposes for a period of a year or less.

Recent modification of the purchasing restrictions are in line with the government's policy of gradually lifting the various wartime restrictions on persons of Japanese origin, the New Canadian said.

Nisei Found Dead In Garage Home

GLENDALE, Calif.—Mark S. Fujii, 25, was found dead by police on the floor of a converted garage dwelling here on May 1.

The Nisei, apparently a suicide, had gone to work five days before in a restaurant adjacent to his garage home.

According to Chief of Police Vern Rasmussen, Fujii had died from a self-inflicted stab wound in the throat.

Los Angeles Paper Exposes Organized Movement to Purge City Area of Non-Caucasians

NOW Reports Campaign Under Way on West Side To Put Restrictive Covenants in Force; Would Bar Sale or Lease of Homes to Non-White Persons

LOS ANGELES—An extensive campaign to purge a square mile in the heart of the City of Los Angeles of all residents not of full Caucasian ancestry is now under way and thousands of restrictive covenants are being offered for home-owners' signatures, the interracial paper, NOW, reported this week.

The drive is aimed against the occupancy of homes in the district, which surrounds the University of Southern California, by persons of Negro, Chinese, Japanese, Filipino and Mexican ancestry, according to the NOW article by George Hanson.

Cooperating in this wide-sweeping race restriction scheme, according to statements made to NOW, are University of Southern California authorities, the Auto Club of Southern California through its legal department and a member of a prominent oil family.

Objective of the campaign is to make the residential district, in the heart of Los Angeles' West Side (bounded on the north by West Washington Blvd., on the south by Exposition Blvd., on the east by Grand Avenue and on the west by Vermont Ave.) "at least 90 percent lily-white," NOW reported.

(Before the evacuation the district was the home of a large number of Japanese Americans.) A Japanese American fraternity at the University of Southern California owns a home in the district. The club has been inactive since the evacuation.

The NOW article stated that all

learned to hate and despise the Japanese while he served in China from 1935 to 1939. But, after the beginning of the war, after hearing of the record made by the Japanese Americans in Italy and in France and witnessing the vital part which they played at such great risks to their persons in the CBI and on Okinawa, he now has only the greatest admiration and praise for the Nisei who served in uniform. General Stilwell declared that he had learned that there was a distinction between the Japanese enemy and the Japanese American. He lashed out against Americans who refused to recognize that distinction, saying that they were not only doing an injustice to these loyal Japanese in the United States but negating the ideals for which all American soldiers fought in World War II.

While calling upon all Americans to give just due and credit to the significant part which Japanese American soldiers played in the recent war, he called upon all Nisei to live up to the Japanese American Creed and to remember that the great majority of Americans would recognize their merit on the basis of achievement and not on the basis of physical characteristics.

National JACL Secretary Mike Masaoka, who shared the speaker's rostrum with General Stilwell, paid tribute to those Americans on the home front who carried on the battle for Americanism while the Nisei soldiers were fighting overseas to keep faith with their friends in America who believed in them and were willing to risk their reputation as community leaders on their conviction that the Nisei were loyal Americans.

Colonel Kai Rasmussen, commandant of the Army language school, a surprise guest speaker, declared that in his considered and deliberate judgment the use of Japanese Americans in the Pacific shortened the war considerably and saved the lives of thousands of American soldiers and billions in American dollars.

of the other fraternities and sororities at USC had signed the restrictive covenant agreements except one, a Jewish sorority, Alpha Epsilon Phi. Officials of this sorority have been withstanding all pressure in their stand against the organized movement to bar non-white property ownership in the area.

The restrictive covenants pledge the property owners to bar the occupancy or use of property by any person not of the white race, except as servants in Caucasian homes. The agreements also bar the property-owners from selling their homes or properties to non-Caucasians.

According to NOW, many homes in the area were vacated by Japanese Americans at the time of the evacuation. Some of these homes were later occupied by Negro war workers who were brought to the Coast from the South to fill jobs on war production lines.

PACIFIC CITIZEN

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LARRY TAJIRI EDITOR

EDITORIALS:

Unseemly Haste

Under the signature of John Sheppard, chairman, the California State Council of the American Veterans Committee recently protested the "unseemly haste" of the Department of Justice in the rounding up of potential Japanese deportees by immigration officers.

The AVC's protests were reinforced by protests from other organizations, including the San Francisco American Council on Race Relations, the Los Angeles Council for Civic Unity, the Japanese American Citizens League, and religious organizations.

The "unseemly haste" of the Justice Department and the sensational treatment of the news given by certain newspapers gave the false impression that the aliens were all illegal entrants and that until this time they were successful in eluding the authorities.

Actually few of the people involved are illegal entrants. Most of them were international traders, visitors and students whose legal status in this country was voided when Japan attacked the United States. The breaking off of relations between these two countries annulled their rights to stay in this country, and they therefore became aliens subject to deportation.

Moreover, none of these persons attempted to escape the authorities. All of them were under bond, free to go where they pleased until called up for deportation proceedings. Many of them, particularly those with families here, had on file petitions requesting a stay of deportation pending court action, which would determine whether or not they might remain here.

The sudden action of the Justice Department early this month in calling in these aliens resulted in many cases in the separation of the head of a family from his wife and children. The Justice Department, it would appear, was willing to separate them from their families and deport them without allowing their cases to be heard. The action resulted in widespread protest and has been followed by an order from Attorney General Clark granting what amounts to a two-week reprieve to the potential deportees. It is to be hoped that consideration of pending legislation may result in action which will permit these persons to be treated by the Justice Department on the same basis as European aliens whose hardship cases may be alleviated by the discretionary powers of the Immigration Board. No such discretion is permitted in cases of aliens "ineligible to citizenship."

American Press

The trustees of Columbia university this week awarded the 1946 Pulitzer prize for distinguished editorial writing to Hodding Carter, editor of the Delta Democrat-Times of Greenville, Miss., "for a group of editorials . . . on the subject of racial, religious and economic intolerance." The trustees specifically cited an editorial by Mr. Carter on Americans of Japanese ancestry which appeared in the Democrat-Times on Aug. 27, 1945, under the title, "Go for Broke."

The awarding of a Pulitzer prize for an editorial on the Nisei points up the important role played by the nation's editors in the wartime battle against homefront racism. The American press, with only a few sorry exceptions, contributed greatly to the government program of relocation of evacuated Japanese Americans. Papers like the Des Moines

Register and Tribune, the Washington Post, Chicago Sun, Milwaukee Journal and the New York press in general directed national attention to the problems resulting from the evacuation. The West Coast press, which had helped stir the tide of resentment and suspicion against persons of Japanese ancestry in the weeks after Pearl Harbor, was later a factor in easing the return of the evacuees to the coastal area through a constructive attitude which helped to sweep away the cobwebs of myths and fears which had been spun by the racists.

The generally favorable acceptance accorded the evacuees who have returned to the West Coast has sustained the belief of the editors of the San Francisco Chronicle, San Francisco News, Los Angeles Daily News, Seattle Times, Portland Oregonian, Portland Journal, Santa Ana Register, Selma Enterprise, to name only a few, that the majority opinion of the people of the West Coast states was not the anti-democratic, un-American race-baiting of the extremely vocal opposition to the return of the Japanese Americans.

The American press did much to inform the people of the wartime activity of Japanese Americans. Such activity was important, not alone in that it carried out the basic work of the press which is the communication of news, but because it also fulfilled the function of a free press as an agent of democracy.

Facts vs. Myths

Many of the myths circulated about the Japanese American population by West Coast racist are blasted in an article this week titled "The Hate That Failed," written by William L. Worden and printed in the Saturday Evening Post of May 4.

Opponents of the returning evacuees cite many charges against them, says Worden, including the following: that they were a growing population, threatening to control whole areas; that Japanese created unfair competition by low wages and a low standard of living, that the race had been proved disloyal, that its members were avoiding the draft, that Shintoism made them automatically unfit for life in America, that Japanese-language schools fostered disloyalty and that the Nisei were congregated around military installations for spying and sabotage.

There never were more than 23,321 Japanese in Los Angeles' millions, says Worden, and that was the largest single community in the country. Hood River, which received nation-wide condemnation last year for removing the names of its Japanese American servicemen from its honor roll, had only 700 persons of Japanese ancestry out of more than 20,000 people in the town and countryside. In Monterey county, site of much anti-Japanese agitation, only 135 farms out of 1999 and no important businesses were operated by persons of Japanese descent.

The Japanese birth rate, the butt of much racist talk, was, according to Worden, "never very high" and "dropping steadily for twenty-five years." In 1920 California registered 5032 births to persons of Japanese ancestry. The Washington birthrate was 11.7 in 1940, compared to a state-wide rate of 16.2.

"Economic pressure is equally difficult to prove," the writer declares.

"Fifty years after their first penniless immigration, and despite alien land laws and other obstacles, 7001 Japanese and their American-born children owned or operated farms in 1940. Five thousand were clerks or sales people; 3517 had trades or the like and 1100 had professions. By contrast, only 8300 remained laborers and 3541 domestics. There were no general wage differentials in any industry, but Japanese had abandoned to Filipinos, Mexicans and others such low-paying jobs as orange picking, hop harvesting and ranch labor. As farm proprietors, their records with men who buy produce, Government inspectors and bankers compared favorably with the records of other races."

As for living standards, Worden gives the following figures: The Nisei and Issei registered 32,379 motor vehicles in the coast states and Arizona in 1941, or a car for every three and one half persons. Their percentage of radios and washing machines owned, and especially of children attending college, was above average for their financial group.

And of the charge that the Nisei lived near military installations, Worden says: "It is true that many Japanese lived near military installations when the war began. It is also true that, in most instances, they were there long before the localities became of military importance."

Nisei USA

by LARRY TAJIRI

The WRA Won Its Fight

Abe Fortas, one of the young New Dealers who was responsible for many of the major accomplishments of FDR's regime, outlined the qualifications of a successful government administrator for the New York newspaper, PM, last week. Fortas, who left his important post as Undersecretary of the Interior last January after 12 years in government service, told how often one man, supported by his associates and acting in the interests of the people, could buck the whole tide of reactionary pressures and carry on a program for the benefit of the people.

Fortas named Chester Bowles and Leon Henderson of OPA and Harold Ickes as examples of administrators who had withstood all of the pressures of reactionary groups. He also named Dillon S. Myer, national director of WRA, as one who "fought against the Dies Committee and congressional pressure to carry through a successful wartime program for Japanese Americans."

Dillon Myer's belief in the decent and democratic treatment of Japanese American evacuees has been borne out in the record of the WRA in relocation. The WRA's program, of course, has provided some disappointments, generally at the local community level and particularly in relation to the snarled West Coast housing situation but, on the whole, the agency's record is a remarkable one.

The WRA was actually a war agency, created by executive order to carry out an emergency program made necessary by a military decision to remove all persons of a single racial ancestry from the Pacific Coast, but its personnel and its spirit and outlook of humanitarianism were in the best traditions of the early New Deal. The WRA had nothing to do with either the evacuation or the exclusion of persons of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast but it inherited all the dirty work and the headaches which resulted from a racist application of a theory of military security. Resisting tremendous pressures, particularly from Pacific Coast interests which profited from the evacuation program, the WRA has been able to carry forward as intelligent program of relocation for the evacuees which it has shown to be in the best interests of the people of the country as a whole.

Given a situation without precedent in our national history, the WRA under Dillon Myer developed a program in its relocation of its evacuee wards which may become a model of democratic action for the relief and readjustment of displaced persons. There was a time in 1943 when the WRA was threatened with extinction by its political opponents, when it was the target of a national campaign on the part of the yellow press and when it was the butt of successive inquiries by the Dies Committee and various investigations by groups of the California legislature. The fact that the agency was able to push forward its program despite these pressures and public attacks is a tribute to the fighting heart as well as the political sagacity of Dillon Myer and his subordinates.

But there was a time when it was touch and go, when the WRA's effectiveness as an agent of democratic action hung in the balance. We remember a hot afternoon in July of 1943 when Dillon Myer stood before the Dies Committee and lashed back against the lies and distortions of biased witnesses which the committee had amassed in an attempt to prove its contention that the WRA was "coddling" alien enemies. The fabrications of his star witnesses blew up in the face of Rep. John Costello of California who was leading the Dies investigation and Mr. Costello himself later failed to win reelection to Congress.

In a way the strength of the WRA was the faith of its leadership in the loyalty and integrity of the Japanese American group. That faith was justified by the personal records of the relocated evacuees and particularly by the fighting records of Japanese Americans in the Army, including many men who had volunteered for military service from the relocation centers. This active participation on the part of Japanese

American evacuees in World War II later gave the WRA a positive argument which the agency was able to use to good advantage in its public relations program which preceded the return of the evacuees to the West Coast.

Reduced to its most elemental terms, the work of the WRA was the application of the democratic ideal of fair play without regard to race or color or creed. The agency's effectiveness was increased manifold by the personal convictions of its key personnel, in Washington and in regional and local offices, in the integrity of that ideal. Because its work involved the creation and maintenance of a public opinion favorable to the individual resettlement of the evacuees, the men of the WRA dug down to the roots of race prejudice. They found that race myths propagated by opposition groups had distorted the thinking of a large section of the public on the question and they set out to destroy the myths and the misconceptions drawn from them. They found and exposed the economic roots of prejudice and grew to the realization that discriminatory laws, such as those which deny the right of naturalization to certain immigrant groups and the mass of biased legislation based on that factor of ineligibility to citizenship were among the underlying reasons which had created the situation which had resulted in mass evacuation.

The WRA already is supporting proposed legislation which will provide a method of indemnification for the actual property and financial losses of the evacuees as a result of the evacuation and exclusion program. Before the agency expires with the fiscal year, it may recommend other action which will serve to abolish discrimination against the Japanese American group and which will help avoid the recurrence of the situation which necessitated the creation of the agency.

The success of the WRA in its democratic handling of an undemocratic situation is an assured fact. The agency has weathered its storms and today the majority of public opinion can be described as favorable to its aims, purposes and accomplishments. That work, however, would not have been possible without men like Dillon S. Myer and his associates who had the courage of their convictions and the ability to withstand the vile campaigns of the racist opposition. And it should also be noted that the WRA did not stand alone but that it had the backing of the administration throughout the war years and particularly the support of such men as Harold Ickes, Abe Fortas and Oscar Chapman of the Interior Department.

The evacuation may have shamed democracy but the work of the WRA will stand as a credit to a democratic people.

Ben Kuroki's Story Told in Article In See Magazine

"We want a world where all men can have a job at a decent wage, and a pleasant house to live in, and a freedom that doesn't depend on the slant of an eye or the shape of a nose."

So writes Millard Lampell, former sergeant with the Army Air Force and author of "The Long Way Home" in an article, "What the Veteran Wants!" in the current issue of "See" magazine.

Lampell tells the story of Ben Kuroki, Nisei tailgunner, who had 58 missions to his credit, but was stymied by racial bigots at home.

"What happened to him has happened in different ways to thousands of veterans—Negroes, Jews, Italians, Mexicans," says Lampell. "Because of their race or their color they have been kept from voting in the South, kept out of medical schools, given the run-around in employment agencies."

They went overseas to prove that it isn't race or religion that makes men free, says Lampell. "And now they've come home, expecting to see ideas like that put to work, and an end to college quotas for Jews, and keeping Negroes in porters' jobs, and putting the squeeze on Japanese American farmers."

Vagaries

Nisei Cop . . .

It's reported that a Nisei veteran of the 442nd Infantry, Goro Mochizuki, is a patrolman on the Chicago police force, probably the first Nisei to serve on a city police force on the mainland. (More than 30 members of the Honolulu police force, all Japanese ancestry, volunteered for the 442nd Combat Team.)

Men of the 442nd Combat Team in Italy are applying for absentee ballots to vote in the coming primary elections. . . . When a reporter visited Iva Toguri, better known to GIs as "Tokyo Rose" in Sugamo prison recently, she was reading a detective novel, "Death and the Dancing Footman." . . . A delegation from the Japanese American Committee for Democracy marched in New York's May Day parade. . . . Ray Hashitani, former employe of the price section of OPA in Washington, is now en route to Tokyo where he will make a post in the commodity rationing section of the U. S. occupation force. . . . The wartime loyalty of Hawaii's population of Japanese ancestry is stressed in the Leslie Ford novel, "Man from Japan," which has been running in the Saturday Evening Post.

Coal Strike . . .

Involved in the present national soft coal strike are more than 50 miners of Japanese ancestry who are employed in the coal mines of Utah's Carbon county. Most of the miners are members of the United Mine Workers. . . . Arlo Tatum, active member of the Chicago chapter of the JACL and director of voice in the recent JACL Talent show in Chicago, will appear on May 19 in a leading baritone role in the opera, "Martha," staged by the Chicago Civic Opera and the Theatre Guild. . . . Rev. Thomas E. West, former regimental chaplain of the 442nd Combat Team, will take over duties as the pastor of the famous Dudley Street Baptist church in Boston, Mass. Rev. West recently wrote an article on the Nisei and the 442nd Infantry for his alumni magazine at the University of Richmond in Virginia.

Victims . . .

Among Hawaii's victims of the tidal wave disaster on April 1 were at least three members of the CIO's ILWU (International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union) who lost their lives at Hilo. A telegram from Jack Hall and Jack Kawano, CIO leaders in Hawaii, to the ILWU headquarters in San Francisco has been followed by the response of Coast ILWU members who are raising a \$35,000 contribution to aid tidal wave victims. . . . During 1942 when the induction of Japanese Americans into the Army was suspended, a number of Nisei GIs who had been serving the Army since before Pearl Harbor were sent home by their commanding officers under a War Department policy then in effect but later revised. These Nisei later received "blue" discharges for no reason other than that they were of Japanese ancestry. Some of these cases are now being sent back to the War Department for review with the possibility that these Nisei will receive honorary discharges.

Publisher . . .

Benjamin W. Fleisher, 76, whose Japan Advertiser was the most influential English-language daily in the Orient until he was forced out of Japan by the militarists in 1940, died at the Mayo clinic at Rochester, Minn., last week. Mr. Fleisher took a deep interest in the evacuation and the problems of the Nisei. . . . Hizi Koyke, the opera star, is Mrs. Edward Gallo in private life. Mr. Gallo, who has been in the Army, is the nephew of Fortune Gallo, impresario of the San Carlo Opera company. They were married three days before Pearl Harbor. . . . One of the guests at the San Francisco JACL's appreciation dinner at the Whitcomb hotel last week, at which General Stilwell was the main speaker, was ex-Sergeant Cosmo Sakamoto of Loomis, Calif. It was the burning of Sgt. Sakamoto's home which inspired Gen. Stilwell to make his famous statement about a "pick-axe club" of GIs to defend the rights of Nisei citizens. Sgt. Sakamoto, incidentally, served in Gen. Stilwell's Tenth Army on Okinawa.

MUTUAL THANKS



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Washington News-Letter

Ben Kuroki Keeps Plugging On His 59th Mission

By JOHN KITASAKO

Little did the son of the Hershey, Nebraska, potato farmer dream six years ago that he would emerge as one of the top speakers from the war, and that his voice would be heard over coast-to-coast hook-ups, and that he would be addressing groups ranging from small grade-school classes to national conventions. But it happened to Ben Kuroki because he knew how to recount his war experiences with effective Midwestern simplicity and directness, and because he has a stirring message to tell about prejudice, the great post-war bugaboo.

Ben would be the first to admit he is no orator. He never took up public speaking back at Hershey. In fact he never made a speech until he was asked to relate his experiences after he returned to the U. S. upon completing 30 bombing missions over Europe.

Last fall up in New York, he contemplated taking a short public-speaking course, but his friends advised him not to. He might acquire platform polish, they told him, but he might lose his sincerity, and sincerity was his cardinal selling point.

Ben is deathly afraid of losing his sincerity through constant repetition. So he's always trying to add new material, new twists to his talks. And that's why he was down in Washington last week interviewing Nisei amputees out at Walter Reed Hospital.

He says the most thrilling experience was one which happened early in his speech-making career, and which "made" him a rostrum personality. That was the address he delivered at San Francisco's Palace Hotel to the Commonwealth Club, California's greatest collection of industrialists, educators, and politicians.

Ben says he'll never forget the thunderous applause which broke out after he sat down. The sight of nearly 1,000 persons rising as one man to accord him an ovation which lasted ten minutes — the longest in the famed club's history — is as vivid to him today as it was three years ago.

It made him feel especially good because only the week before down in Hollywood he had been yanked off the Ginny Simms' radio show at the last minute because some small minds at NBC thought his appearance on the program might cause trouble.

The most hostile groups he faced were evacuee audiences at the Heart Mountain relocation center back in early 1944. That is not surprising to us, for as a former inmate of that Wyoming center, we are familiar with the bullies and malcontents who operated from latrine to latrine.

Ben addressed a meeting out there which was attended by agitators who hid behind the name of the "Fair Play Committee." Ben didn't mind the heckling at first, but when they got fresh and unnecessarily personal, he blew his

top and gave them a good chunk of his mind. Ben says it was a lucky thing he had some friends to escort him from that meeting.

He had a pretty rough time with a bunch of kids who were contemplating not to report for their Army physicals. He tried to convince them it was the best thing for them and their families if they submitted to the draft. Some of the kids walked out on him. Others hooted, and some mumbled threateningly. Ben was very disappointed.

Recently he received an unsigned letter. It was from a fellow who was at that meeting two years ago. He only said he appreciated now what Ben had said at the time. He didn't say whether he was a draft dodger who had paid the consequences, or whether he had followed Ben's advice. Ben prefers to believe he helped him.

The speaking engagement which impressed Ben the most was at a small grade school out in White Plains, New York. Some kids in the eighth grade had heard Ben speak over the New York Herald-Tribune radio forum last fall, and they wanted him to tell them more about Nisei. There were only 15 in the whole class, but would he come anyhow?

Ben was loaded down with work at that time, but he went. He just couldn't ignore their earnest entreaty. They had prepared, with the help of their mothers, a sumptuous dinner, complete with place-cards made of paper airplanes in honor of their tail-gunner guest. Their class paper featured a story about Ben. So thrilled were they at having a "Herald-Tribune speaker" as their guest that they really treated him like a king.

After dinner, the parents were invited by the children to hear Ben speak. When his talk was over, the children bombarded him with all sorts of questions, and very intelligent questions too, says Ben.

He was enthralled. Never had he come up against an audience more eager to know about Nisei and their problems. It wasn't just curiosity. It was an honest, open concern for a maltreated minority.

In this school there were no Nisei students. In the whole town of White Plains there was only a single Issei. The children knew nothing about Nisei, but they had

From the Frying Pan

By BILL HOSOKAWA

Reflections on Pride in Ownership

Des Moines, Iowa.

There's something warming and contagious about a man's pride in his possessions.

A friend dropped by on business and he fairly glowed when we took notice of his new car. He's not a demonstrative person, but he was quick to point out the car's features.

He opened the trunk to demonstrate its roominess, pointed out the brand new spare tire, turned on the radio to let us hear its tone.

And when we had to decline his offer of a spin around the block he appeared almost as if he had been rebuffed.

He had put in his order for the car last October. Perhaps he had been thinking and dreaming about a new car for months before that as the symptoms of approaching senility overtook his old bus.

And now here it was a gleaming jewel on wheels, the pride of his heart and the apple of his eye.

So long as that pride in material possessions remains with the American people, no authoritarian economic system has a chance of replacing the American way.

Back on the Coast

We like to share our mail when it's interesting. Here are some excerpts of a letter from Bob Yosh Kodama, who drove back to Los Angeles recently after getting his army discharge on the east coast. He says:

"It seems that many Nisei with good jobs in the east have left those jobs and returned here. A lot of them are doing nothing but drawing compensation. Some have begun to filter back into the produce and floral trades.

"More Japanese Americans are buying homes in order to get adequate shelter. I guess it's finding a home and work that are more the problem than community integration and social acceptance.

"I know definitely that we Nisei have made a lot of fine friends here as well as in the midwest and east. As I traveled homeward the people's desire to get along with others impressed me deeply and added a lot to my personal confidence.

"It would be ideal if many Nisei would join in community activities and try to achieve social harmony with other members of their communities. This is being done by Nisei and Issei in areas where they have relocated, and surely we need that type of activity here on the west coast more than ever.

"I feel that we need more demonstration of practical democracy. It sounds quite idealistic, but we Nisei are in a great position to initiate such a move.

"In St. Joseph, Mo., the president of the 'Y' board, who I met at a conference several years ago gave me a few hours before his morning broadcast to talk about 'Y' work and Nisei problems. He concluded by asking me to join his business and bring my family to St. Joseph if I am dissatisfied with conditions in L. A.

"This sort of experience happened twice before I reached home."

Planting Seeds

It's the rare child, we've discovered, that doesn't take an interest in planting seeds. In fact it's a toss-up between planting and harvesting in competing for a child's energies.

We've tried to analyze this reaction and have concluded that it

none of the prejudice which ignorance usually breeds.

Ben went away from White Plains that night with a rich feeling of satisfaction. Those 15 eighth-graders hold out a great promise. Their earnest desire to come into a closer understanding with minority Americans augurs well for young America in the world of tomorrow.

These are busy days for the speaker from the Platte. His two top engagements this month are at the New York State YMCA convention and the New Jersey Federation of Women's conference at the Hotel New Yorker. Then he swings out west on the Pullman circuit as far as St. Louis.

To a fellow who still hasn't conquered platform nervousness, it's a hellish grind. But he keeps plugging, for this is the mission he's dedicated himself to, his 59th and most important mission against intolerance.

comes from a variety of factors. First, there's the prospect of messing around in the dirt, and what child doesn't like that?

Then there's the fascinating, fairy-tale fact that seeds buried in the soil will, in a few days, send up shoots which will grow into lovely green plants.

And not least, there must be an instinct factor that goes back to the day when the human race first discovered that seeds scattered on a scratched-up plot of earth yielded a crop—an instinct that helped man get through some perilously hungry winters.

How else does one explain the phenomena of children planting pennies in the hopes of harvesting dollars; putting salted peanuts in the ground to realize a bumper yield of monkey-food.

Time Heals

This week we read through "The Hate That Failed," William L. Worden's Saturday Evening Post article about the evacuees' return. It was something of a surprise to see it, for we had come to feel that the business of evacuation in reverse was a dead issue now that all the huffing and puffing of the crackpot fringe was over.

But as we read the article we recalled incidents that had made headlines and we bristled a bit, all over again, over the more flagrant of the outrages.

And then we reflected that the spiritual and moral wounds, which at the time seem as if they'll never heal over, do indeed repair themselves until there is only a little bit of scar tissue to record the fact that there once was an injury.

The frustration and heartbreak of the evacuation and all that came after it are a fading memory now. Even when we think hard the edge has disappeared from the mental pictures, and there is less wryness in the laughter over tragic-comic episodes.

Time has a way.

EDITORIAL DIGEST

Triumph of Justice

BROOKLYN EAGLE
The Brooklyn hostel, which served 1600 men, women and children of Japanese ancestry during its two years of existence, is a triumph of justice, says the Brooklyn Eagle in an editorial published on April 7.

"It is a pleasure to note today," says the Eagle, "that the challenge was met and the obligations of plain humanity met in full measure. Its work completed, the hostel is about to close down. Through its hospitable portals some 1600 men, women and children passed into a useful and happy civilian life, grateful for the brief respite afforded them here."

"With the tension of war in the past, it is easy to underestimate the achievement. Right or wrong, some of the suspicion and hatred aroused by enemy Japanese could have been transferred to those innocent Japanese Americans whose only link to the enemy was appearance and national origin. But it was not."

"Thanks to men like Mr. Brenner, Appellate Division Justice William F. Hagarty and Dr. J. Henry Carpenter of the Brooklyn Church and Mission Federation — members of the inter-faith committee set up by the Brooklyn Council to sponsor the hostel — Brooklynites made only one distinction, not of race or color, but between those who were on our side and those who were not."

Mochizuki Elected Editor at Bingham

BINGHAM, Utah—Isamu Mochizuki was named editor of the school publication at Bingham high school in the school elections held last week.

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From Mary Oyama:
TO YOU OVERSEAS

*It Is Bitter Irony to Hear That
The Soldiers of Democracy Are
Spreading Race Prejudices Abroad*

May 1946
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Joe Nisei:

We have just received a note from a Nisei soldier in Japan who writes: "Here is an observation that might interest you. It seems a hell of a note, but Americans bring their race-prejudices with them wherever they go. These hakujin and Nisei are probably spreading propaganda among the Japanese against the Negroes. It seems to be of the bitterest of irony when we are willing to speak against our own citizens to those who until a season or so ago were our enemies."

Well, Joe, we are writing you to ask: WHY IS THIS? We sincerely hope that the report is not true. But if it is, we hope that it is only a small minority of you who are guilty of disseminating race prejudice wherever you go. There is nothing more disturbing to us here at home than to hear reports of American G. I.'s bringing their race consciousness to bear against the natives of the Philippines, U. S. southern soldiers taking their Jim Crow restrictions with them to England, etc. etc. It is all very disappointing and disillusioning.

One of the swellest Nisei kids we knew was appalled and shocked when he went to the South and saw the undemocratic discrimination against Negro Americans. He knew what he was fighting for when he went to Europe and we know that he would have continued to fight even after V-E day. Too bad that he lies under a white cross today. Too bad that some of us have already forgotten the hard lesson of evacuation, the bitter sacrifices of the war.

"Let us, the living, take up the unfinished task that lies before us—" let us not forget so soon, let us remember that your brother G. I. Jim did not die to preserve the old status quo. He died that men might live in freedom and equality, he fought so that we might make America a more nearly perfect democracy, he once lived that we might create a better world for all mankind.

We are quite sure that he did not mean, "for all mankind but not for the Negroes," or "equality for all people but not for the Indians, the Mexicans, the Filipinos, the Jews." We are sure that he would have laughed out loud if he had heard what a sergeant from Chattanooga, Tennessee once told us: "I believe in democracy but not for the Negroes."

Surely you have the intelligence and the good common sense to know that one group of Americans, the Nisei, cannot better their lot as a minority group at the expense of discriminating against another group of Americans, the Negro people. In other words you cannot pull yourself up by pushing the other fellow down.

Also you know that the stereotype Negro, "the dumb, happy, ignorant, illiterate fellow" is no more a true representative of Negro Americans than the Stereotype "Jap" (meaning Nisei, to some Caucasians) — sly, tricky, slant-eyed, buck-toothed villain of the cartoons. You know that if you would only give yourself the opportunity to know some intelligent and well educated Negro Americans, you would find them to

be good regular Joes like anybody else. (And, pssst, if you haven't given yourself that chance—you'd better get busy!)

If you want to meet some worthwhile Negro Americans we think that some arrangement can be made with the editor of the P. C., we are sure that Mr. Tajiri would be amenable to the idea. When Memorial Day comes around at the end of this month, it might be fitting for all of us, both at home and abroad, to read over Lincoln's Gettysburg address with something more than just our eyes.

That's about all for this time, Joe.

MARY OYAMA

**Military Intelligence
School Has Openings
For Issei, Nisei**

FORT SNELLING, Minn. — It has been announced that the Military Intelligence Service Language School at Fort Snelling, Minnesota is now in a position to employ both Issei and Nisei men who can qualify as Japanese language instructors and translators of Japanese legal documents.

The army school, which has been located in Minnesota for the past four years and will be moved to Monterey, California, in June, is comprised mostly of Nisei soldiers. The training program has recently been revised in order to groom these students for occupational duties in the Far East.

In outlining the demand for personnel, school authorities have specified that Issei and Nisei who have had legal experience and who have a good working knowledge of the English and Japanese languages are needed for overseas service. Applicants who can qualify in these terms are assured of attractive salaries.

Inquiries should be addressed to Colonel Kai E. Rasmussen, Commandant, Military Intelligence Service Language School, Fort Snelling, Minnesota, it was stated.

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S. NAVY VETERAN TAKES RESUMPTION OF PENSION PAY

TOKYO—Hoichi Narasaki, who served 32 years in the United States Navy and then returned to Japan, to live in 1934, has applied for resumption of pension payments from the navy. Narasaki drew his pension from 1934 until the freezing of Japanese assets in the United States in 1940. Headquarters advised him he would have to await settlement of the reparations program.

Hizi Koyke Returns to Opera in Role of Mme. Butterfly

NEW YORK — Hizi Koyke returned to the operatic stage after five-year absence in the title role of Puccini's "Madame Butterfly" May 2 with the San Carlo opera company at Center theater. The New York Times commented that the Japanese American soprano's interpretation of the role of Cio-Cio-San "gives an impression of dramatic authenticity; it is convincing and persuasive." "Her singing was expressive," the Times review added. "There were some measures when the quality was somewhat tenuous and the two climactic top notes proved exacting, but the tone was generally appealing."

Shibata Loses Fought to Cisneros

DENVER — Harry Shibata, a lightweight, lost a four-round decision last week to Manuel Visneros of Los Angeles in a bout at Mammoth Gardens.

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Evacuees May Claim Proceeds from Sale of Stored Goods

SAN FRANCISCO—All persons who owned property sold at auction on April 29 by the War Relocation Authority may request payment of proceeds from the sale of their goods by writing to the WRA or the Department of Interior in Washington, it was announced here by Charles F. Miller, area supervisor.

Letters requesting payment should describe property originally owned and furnish copies of WRA form 155, if possible, Miller said. If any other documents or Federal Reserve Bank receipts relating to the property are available, they should also be included, it was announced.

New Fresno Girls Group Holds Election

FRESNO, Calif.—Five officers were elected at the first organizational meeting of ELLE, girl's social organization, held Sunday, May 5 at the residence of Miss Kazue Miyamoto.

Those chosen were president, Kazue Sekiya; vice president, Kazue Miyamoto; secretary, Etsu Mikami; treasurer, Velma Yemoto; historian, June Sakai.

The officers will be installed at a formal installation dinner to be held in June.

Plans for an informal dance to be held on May 29 at the B street USO in Fresno were discussed. Proceeds will go to the Community Center Fund.

Denver JACL Members Urged to Hear Minorities Champion

DENVER — The Denver JACL this week urged its members to hear Claude Williams, famous minorities champion, who will speak on May 17 at the First Baptist church in a special meeting of minority groups.

Williams will be in Denver from May 15 to 18 to give a series of talks to the people of Denver.

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Vital Statistics

BIRTHS

To Mr. and Mrs. S. Miyao a boy on April 28 in Florin, Calif.
To Mr. and Mrs. Hideo Carl Adachi a girl on April 13 in Kingsburg, Calif.

To Mr. and Mrs. Isamu Ogami a boy on April 18 in Selma, Calif.
To Master Sgt. and Mrs. Tom Okamoto a son, Eric, on April 20 at Minneapolis, Minn.

To Mr. and Mrs. Iwao Iwasaki a boy on May 3 in Salt Lake City.

DEATHS

Mark S. Fujii, 25, on May 1 in Glendale, Calif.

MARRIAGES

Hisao Takahashi to Fred Sunao Shibata on May 5 at Brighton, Colo.

Hanaye Noda to Tatsuo Mamiya on May 5 at Denver, Colo.

Misuko Arima to Tsuyoshi Hashi on May 5 at Denver.

Miyoko Yoshimura to George T. Saito on May 5 in Los Angeles.

Wedding

TACOMA, Wash.—Miss Yaeko Fujita of Tacoma, Washington, and Mr. Henry Suyehira of Emmett, Idaho, were married at the home of the bride on Sunday, April 28. The Reverend E. Andrews performed the double ring ceremony before a fireplace banked with tall white stock and white tapered candles. Preceding the ceremony, Miss Chickie Ishihara of Seattle rendered "Always" and "Oh Promise Me."

Mrs. Masao Sugimoto, sister of the bride, was matron of honor. Serving as best man was Mr. Paul Takeuchi of Cascade, Idaho.

The groom, who is the son of Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Suyehira of Emmett, Idaho, was recently discharged from the Army after five years of service, three of which were served overseas in the Aleutians, the South Pacific and the Philippines.

Brighton Nisei Wins County Spelling Bee

DENVER—Lorina Hatasaka, 12, of Brighton, Colorado, represented Adams county in a "State Spellingdown" held in Denver last week under sponsorship of the Rocky Mountain News.

Lorina bested 34 spellers in the county bee, nosing out Willard Timmerman of Zion Lutheran school for the county championship.

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Nisei Veteran Passes CPA Test

CHICAGO — Shigeji Takeda, Nisei veteran, was one of 27 successful candidates out of 300 who took a recent examination for a Certified Public Accountant's certificate in Illinois.

Takeda received a BA degree from UCLA in 1940 with cum laude honors and membership in Beta Gamma Sigma, a national honorary society. He is at present attending Northwestern university evening school for his MA degree.

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Role of Japanese American Linguists in Pacific Campaign Described by Army Officer

Col. Anderton Quotes Gen. Willoughby's Belief That War Would Have Lasted Two More Years Without Services of Nisei Language Personnel in Pacific

SAN FRANCISCO—"We didn't have a single instance of disloyalty among the 800 Japanese American boys under my command for three years," Lieutenant Colonel John E. Anderton, San Francisco attorney, declared on May 7 when he received the Legion of Merit from General Stilwell.

Anderton, who resumed civilian life this week, received the award for his work with Nisei in operational intelligence. He said that the Japanese Americans turned in one of the outstanding achievements of the war.

He declared that the loyalty of the Nisei was "remarkable when it is recalled that approximately 94 percent of all intelligence in the Pacific went through the hands of these Nisei."

"They also set another record that I believe is unequalled," Anderton declared. "During the two and a half years, there was not a single court-martial among them, not a single case of being absent without leave, not a single case of drunkenness, nor a single case of venereal disease."

Col Anderton said feeling was so strong against persons of Japanese ancestry at the outset of the war that the Nisei could not be permitted near the front, that shots were fired at them by American troops in certain instances and that 900 Montana Indians had to be withdrawn from the front "so they wouldn't be mistaken for Japanese."

"General Charles A. Willoughby, who was intelligence chief for General MacArthur, has said that the war would have lasted

at least two years longer if it were not for the Nisei boys," Anderton added "Every campaign was based on information they gained."

The Nisei served as translators and linguists, as did Anderton, who was believed to have been the first white child in the United States to have mastered the Japanese language. He graduated at 18 from a local higher Japanese school after taking up the study of the Japanese language during his last two years at Lowell high.

Anderton's citation listed his assistance in preparing three documentary reference books of Japanese terms, which "proved of immeasurable value to the Allied forces in translation of captured Jap documents."

One of these "Japanese-English Medical Terms," has been adopted since the war's end by the Japanese Imperial Medical school as a standard reference. It also brought romance to Anderton, who wooed and won his Australian wife during the two and a half months she spent typing the document as a civilian employee of the intelligence unit.

Preparation of the book also resulted, Anderton said, in the cholera inoculation of 1,200,000 American soldiers and sailors when translators discovered from Japanese documents that the "Cholera line boundary" had moved 1000 miles closer to Australia.

Some 40 of the Nisei under Anderton's command came from the Bay Area. One of them was Second Lieut. Tsuneo Kadani of San Francisco.

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Immigration Appeals Board Will Be Urged to Delay Deportations of Alien Group

LOS ANGELES — Attorney A. L. Wirin left Los Angeles for Washington this week to appear before the Board of Immigration Appeals on May 14 to urge the Board to allow certain Issei, scheduled for deportation to Japan, to remain in the United States. The appearance is in behalf of approximately ninety immigration cases, represented by the law firm of Wirin, Maeno and Tietz.

The Board will be urged to stay deportation until Congress can act on a bill now pending and introduced by Congressman Eberharter, sponsored by the American Civil Liberties Union, which would authorize the Attorney General to allow Japanese aliens in hardship cases to remain in the United States on the same basis as aliens of other nationalities. The present immigration law permits the Attorney General to allow aliens to remain in the United States permanently even though they entered illegally, or came to the United States temporarily and overstayed their time, or as students, or as merchant traders, where deportation would result in hardship; but the present law does not permit the Attorney General to do so in cases where the aliens are ineligible to naturalization, referring to Japanese.

Pending the decision of the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Department of Justice has just ordered deportation stopped and those arrested for deportation scheduled to leave for Japan from

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WRA Transfers Tule Lake Camp To Reclamation

NEWELL, Calif. — Tule Lake War Relocation Authority center where nearly 30,000 evacuees of Japanese ancestry were housed during the war, was turned over to the Bureau of Reclamation May 4.

The project was the last of WRA's ten centers to pass from the wartime picture.

E. L. Stephens, project superintendent for the Bureau of Reclamation, accepted the center's physical properties from Ray R. Beane, WRA director of the Tule Lake camp. The Bureau of Reclamation accepted the center in behalf of the General Land Office of the Department of Interior, the official liquidating agency.

Pending legislation in Congress would transfer the facilities at Tule Lake for the use of war veterans.

Guy Booker, former office engineer on WRA's Tule Lake station, was designated by Stephens as acting custodian in charge.

It was previously announced that a staff of 35 to 40 persons all employed by the WRA at Tule Lake, would be maintained at the camp by the Bureau of Reclamation. Retained employees will be largely firemen and policemen.

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