

# PACIFIC CITIZEN



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## Report From Anzio Reveals Nisei Heroism

### Minidoka Welcomes War Hero



TECH. SGT. BEN KUROKI, nisei war hero, was feted by residents of the Minidoka relocation center last week. In this photo little Dick Setsuda, whose father volunteered for the army last year from Minidoka and is now with the Japanese American Combat Team, presents a gift from Minidoka members of the JACL to Sgt. Kuroki. H. L. Stafford, project director at Minidoka, and Clarence T. Arai, an attorney on the project, look on.

### U. S. Supreme Court Grants Request to Consider Endo Test Case on WRA Detention

Arguments on Nisei Cases Will Be Heard During Next Court Term

WASHINGTON—The Supreme Court formally granted on May 8 a Ninth Federal Circuit court request that it consider the appeal of Mitsuye Endo, an American woman of Japanese descent, which tests the authority of the government to detain her in a war relocation center.

Miss Endo appealed to the circuit court from a California district court decision which denied her petition for a writ of habeas corpus and for a hearing on her claimed right to release from further restraint by the WRA.

Miss Endo was formerly a resident of Sacramento, being employed by the state government, and was confined in the Tule Lake relocation center at Newell, Calif., before its status was changed to that of a segregation camp. Following the segregation proceedings, she was transferred to the Central Utah relocation center at Topaz, Utah, where she is now residing.

She was a former key puncher operator for the California department of employment, and has a brother in the United States Army.

The circuit court requested the high tribunal for "instructions for a proper decision" in her case.

In agreeing to this request, the Supreme Court also announced it would hear argument in the case immediately after it hears attorneys on the appeal by Fred Toyosaburo Korematsu, questioning the validity of the military evacuation order as affecting American citizens.

The arguments will be scheduled in the next court term beginning in October.

### Gila River Center Dedicates Monument

RIVERS, Ariz.—The Gila River relocation center's Honor Roll Monument, the first of its kind in any relocation camp, was unveiled and dedicated recently in honor of Rivers boys in the armed forces with a solemn service attended by more than 1000 persons.

### First Nisei Civilian Since Evacuation Visits Lodi Area

LODI, Calif. — Sam Funamura, first Lodi district civilian of Japanese ancestry to return under a War Relocation Authority and western defense command permit to this area since the evacuation in 1942, arrived in Lodi last week to attend to business.

Funamura, former president of the Lodi chapter of the JACL, is employed as a machinist in Chicago and is asking for induction into the army. He was formerly in farming in the Youngstown district and was a member of Company B of the California State Guard.

He relocated in Chicago from the Rohwer relocation center.

### Three Escheat Cases Planned In California

District Attorney Estimates Value of Properties at \$70,000

FRESNO, Calif. — Plans for filing three test cases seeking to escheat to the state land allegedly controlled by aliens of Japanese ancestry through their American-born children were announced on May 3 by District Attorney James M. Thuesen.

Decision to file the suits, which will ask that title to the properties be transferred to the state, was made, Thuesen said, following a conference between Deputy District Attorney Harold V. Thompson and Everett Mattoon, assistant attorney general stationed in Los Angeles.

Thuesen declined to disclose the names of the defendants but noted that the properties in question are valued at approximately \$70,000.

### Anti-Alien Bill Introduced by Mott in House

Seeks Deportation Of Alien Group 30 Days After War

WASHINGTON—A bill calling for the deportation of aliens of Japanese ancestry immediately following the end of the war was introduced in the House on May 9 by Rep. Mott, Republican of Oregon, it was reported here.

Mott told the House his measure would require the United States Attorney General to issue deportation warrants against all undesirable aliens of Japanese ancestry within 30 days after the end of hostilities. His bill would provide that undesirable aliens would not be released from internment except for deportation.

Action is imperative now, Mott added, lest postwar propaganda based on the argument that Japanese are "no longer our enemies" defeat its approval following the conflict.

### Alhambra Methodists Rap Nisei Detention

ALHAMBRA, Calif. — A resolution protesting the detention of loyal American citizens of Japanese ancestry beyond the limits of military necessity was adopted by the First Methodist church of Alhambra at its annual meeting on April 20, according to Sears Carpenter, secretary of the annual meeting.

### 900 Purple Hearts Awarded Men of Japanese American Unit From Hawaiian Islands

Lieut. Kim Reports Three Distinguished Service Crosses, 21 Bronze Stars, 36 Silver Stars Presented to Men of 100th Infantry Battalion.

The star-spangled courage of the famous 100th Infantry Battalion of the U. S. Fifth Army's 34th Division "is figuratively written in blood," an Associated Press correspondent reported this week in a delayed dispatch dated May 5 from the Anzio Beachhead in Italy. The 100th Infantry's enlisted personnel is composed entirely of Japanese Americans, the great majority of whom are from the Hawaiian Islands.

The correspondent quoted Lieut. Young O. Kim of Los Angeles as reporting that to date the Japanese Americans have received three Distinguished Service Crosses, 21 Bronze Stars, 36 Silver Stars and 900 Purple Hearts.

Lieut. Kim, a Korean American officer who has kept a record of the combat performance of the battalion since it went into action last September 25 in the mountains behind Salerno, pointed out "that 900 wounded is significant in an outfit sent four times across the Volturno River and once into Cassino." Many of the Purple Hearts were awarded posthumously.

"Heroism is a common commodity in the doughboy outfit known to the territory of Hawaii as 'one puka puka,' in which all the enlisted men and more than half the officers are of Japanese descent and have the slogan 'Remember Pearl Harbor,'" the A. P. writer reported.

The 100th Infantry recently went into action on the Anzio Beachhead, the correspondent reported, and the other midnight Lieut. Howard Y. Miyake of Honolulu led a raid on a German position reported defended by two machine guns with several tanks in support. They broke into the farmhouse pillbox. Nobody was there. But Lieut. Roy H. Hirano of San Francisco, Calif., and a detail captured an enemy scout, without a shot.

"The Japanese Americans don't put it into words, but you feel that they no longer feel it necessary to prove their patriotism. Generals have commended them honestly. They have gone through the infantrymen's hell and come out unshaken," the A. P. correspondent said.

The A. P. correspondent described a front-line ceremony in which two members of the 100th battalion, Sgt. Melvin Tesuda of Honolulu and Pfc. Kazunobu Yamamoto of Paia, were awarded Silver Stars for gallantry in action:

"A lei of daffodils, freshly picked from an abandoned Italian garden, hung on the faded G. I. combat jacket of the stocky little sergeant. He was humming 'Kuu Ipo Aloha,' a Hawaiian love song.

"In the dugout you could almost imagine that the distant crump of German mortars was surf breaking on a coral reef.

"Shuffling in past the blanket front door came two soldiers from a night's outpost guard to present themselves by request to Lieut. Col. Gordon Singles of Denver.

"For gallantry in action," reads the citation which the West Pointer handed to Sgt. Melvin Tesuda of Honolulu and Pfc. Kazunobu Yamamoto of Paia, winners of the Silver Star.

"One of them continued to lay a telephone wire while a German machine gun killed three men beside him. The other stayed with his mortar although wounded and fought off charging enemy infantry."

The correspondent added that Lieut. Kim himself had been "plenty hot" as a doughboy officer and had been awarded the Silver Star.

Two years ago Lieut. Kim married a Chinese American girl from Tucson, Ariz., though her family opposed it because he was not Chinese, and his did, too, because she was not Korean. Today Lieut. Kim is fighting on the beachhead and she is a United States Army nurse at a hospital in England.

### Eberharter Defends Loyal Nisei, Answering Charges by Costello

No Espionage, Sabotage By Japanese Americans Reported, House Told

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Representative Herman J. Eberharter last Friday pointed to the record of Japanese Americans released from relocation centers in answer to an attack on the War Relocation Authority program by John Costello, representative from California.

"I may say that not a single act of espionage or sabotage has been committed by any Japanese American who has been released by the War Relocation Authority," Representative Eberharter said, therefore I do not think we should

carry on a campaign of trying to incarcerate people who have not committed any act against the government of the United States. If we follow that policy with respect to one nationality, we should follow it with respect to every other nationality in the world."

Eberharter's statements followed charges by Costello that the War Relocation Authority is "deliberately planting these alien and citizen Japanese directly in front of the Brooklyn Navy Yard in spite of the vast area of the city of New York and the countless other places either in the city or elsewhere in the country where they might be located."

Representative Costello referred to the proposed Japanese American hostel in Brooklyn.



## Federal Grand Jury Indicts Three Amache Women for Alleged Aid to Nazi Prisoners

DENVER, Colo. — A federal grand jury Tuesday indicted three American-born women of Japanese ancestry on a charge of treason which grew out of the escape of two German prisoners of war from the Trinidad, Colo., camp last October 17.

The indictments gave the names of the women as Tsuruko (Toots) Wallace, whose husband is reported to be a ship worker in California; Florence Otani and Billie Shitara Tanigoshi. All were residents of the Amache relocation center in Colorado.

The women are accused of aid in the escape of Corporals Heinrich Haider, 31, and Herman August Loescher, 31. The prisoners were captured at Watrous, New Mexico, on October 19.

Investigation of the women followed publications of pictures found on the captured prisoners which showed them embracing the sisters involved in the case.

The indictments said the women were employed on the Winger farm near Trinidad and accused them of furnishing the corporals with money, a flashlight, clothing, road maps, a railroad timetable and with providing them with an automobile.

U. S. District Attorney Thomas Morrissey said the women were being taken into custody Tuesday at the Amache center and probably would be arraigned in Denver. The grand jury suggested their bonds be fixed at \$10,000 apiece.

The indictment contained two counts. The first, charging treason, carries a maximum penalty of death and a minimum penalty of \$10,000 fine or five years imprisonment. The second, charging conspiracy to commit treason, carries a maximum penalty of \$10,000 fine and two years imprisonment.

## Disloyalty Charge Denied by Mrs. Wallace in Interview

**Tells of Volunteering For Farm Work to Aid National Defense**

DENVER, Colo. — Mrs. Tsuruko (Toots) Wallace, the eldest of three Japanese American sisters charged with treason in the escape of two German prisoners of war last fall, was quoted by the Associated Press as declaring Wednesday she and her sisters are not disloyal and are being persecuted.

The A.P. said Mrs. Wallace declared in an interview that she and her sisters, who were brought to Denver Tuesday from the Granada relocation center, "wanted to help national defense—that's why we were working on a farm near Trinidad."

Declaring that she and her sisters, Mrs. Florence Shizue Otani, 33, and Mrs. Billie Shitara Tanigoshi, 32, were being persecuted because of their race, Mrs. Wallace added:

"The husband of one of my sisters is in the U. S. Army, serving overseas, and a brother of ours has his notice to report here in Denver for his preinduction physical examination."

She did not say which of her sisters has a husband in the army, nor would she give her brother's name. Mrs. Wallace admitted she was one of the women shown in snapshots—picturing the Japanese American women in the arms of the German prisoners—which were found on Heinrich Haider, one of the escaped prisoners at the time of his apprehension.

"Yes," said Mrs. Wallace, "I stood beside one of the Germans and he put his arm around me and a picture was taken, but I don't see any harm in that."

The German prisoners of war were employed on the farm on which the Japanese American girls were also working.

## Newark Methodists Criticize Attitude Of Farmer Group

NEWARK, N. J. — A resolution criticizing New Jersey farmers for their prejudicial actions against five Japanese American evacuees was passed unanimously at the 87th annual Newark conference of the Methodist church here recently.

It was reported that more than 200 New Jersey clergymen "heartily endorsed" the government's plan to resettle Japanese Americans.

## Three Nisei Make College Honor Roll

LIBERTY, Mo. — Three Japanese American students, Mitsue Endo, Arthur Sato from Topaz and Takeo Shirasawa from Poston, were among the fifteen students to make the honor roll at William Jewell college here.

## Ministers Hit Attitude of Realty Boards

**Pledge to Keep Non-Whites Out of Home Areas Reported**

The Salt Lake City Ministerial association on Wednesday of this week protested the recent action of local real estate firms, who pledged to keep nonwhites from white neighborhoods, in a letter to Carlos D. Kimball, chairman of the real estate board's nonwhite housing committee.

The letter, signed by the Rev. Floyd W. Barr, association president and pastor of the First Presbyterian church, was submitted by a special committee consisting of the Rev. William F. Koenig, pastor of the Westminster Presbyterian church; the Rev. Raymond C. Walker, pastor, First Methodist church; Miss Florence Pierce, secretary of the Salt Lake YWCA, and adjutant G. E. Salther, Salvation Army.

"We are compelled to recognize and remain loyal to the basic principle that 'God hath made of one blood all peoples to dwell together in unity,' and we assert that any code of ethics which does not recognize this principle cannot be accepted by Christians and true Americans. This basic principle must necessarily allow for freedom of all people to choose their place of residence," the letter said.

"The assumption that skin color (racial origin) causes lowering of community standards, we feel is invalid. It is true that when certain peoples move into an area, land values may go down, but this is not due to racial origin of the group coming in. The real reason lies in the thought pattern of the average American citizen, which is in direct conflict with any further growth of democracy."

The ministerial group declared that property restrictions should be removed in keeping with issues for which America is fighting the

## First Unescorted Evacuees Pass Through Coast Area

SAN FRANCISCO — Forty-five Japanese American women and children, some of them wives and daughters of United States soldiers serving overseas, straggled into San Francisco last week from all parts of the country, en route to homes in Hawaii.

Although other Japanese Americans have passed through the western defense command on military permits, this group was notable in that it was the first unescorted contingent. They were granted individual permits to enter the western defense command to



ROY M. TAKENO

## Takeno Named New Editor of Denver Paper

**Was Acting Reports Officer at Manzanar Relocation Center**

DENVER — Appointment of Roy M. Takeno, 30, as managing editor of the bi-lingual Japanese-American newspaper, the Rocky Shimpō, was disclosed Friday by Miss Tetsuko Toda, publisher.

Graduate of the University of Southern California School of Journalism and member of the Sigma Delta Chi national journalism fraternity, Takeno was English editor of the California Daily News in Los Angeles and later editor of the Manzanar Free Press and acting reports officer at the War Relocation Authority project at Manzanar in Owens Valley, California.

## Rivers Volunteer Reported Transferred To Army Air Force

RIVERS, Ariz. — Cpl. Masao Kanemoto, a former resident of Canal camp at the Gila River relocation center and one of the first evacuees to volunteer from the center, has been transferred to the Army Air Force at MacDill Field, Florida, from Camp Savage, the News Courier reports.

Cpl. Kanemoto volunteered in 1943 for the Japanese American Combat Team at Camp Shelby.

## First Visalia Nisei Get Induction Call

VISALIA, Calif. — For the first time since Pearl Harbor, two Americans of Japanese ancestry have been included in the draft call here.

Frank Maruyama and Jitsuo Otani, former residents of Visalia, have passed preinduction physical examinations and will enter the service this week along with 29 other residents of the Visalia area.

war, and that there is "no hope of moving forward on the lesser basis of putting property above people. To us it seems unthinkable that we must yield the ordering of our neighborliness to mere monetary values."

await transportation to their former Hawaiian homes.

Many members of the group arrived here in January, 1943, as evacuees from the Hawaiian islands. Others were attending school in the United States when the war broke out, and have since been living in relocation centers as well as in the eastern United States.

It was announced that no restrictions were placed on their travel or housing accommodations and most of the group were traveling singly rather than in a group, military officials stated.

## Story of the Week

## Nisei Troops at U. S. Camp Vote in California Elections

WITH JAPANESE AMERICAN TROOPS AT A U. S. ARMY TRAINING CAMP — In spite of the pressure of studies and work, many soldiers in Company E took full advantage of the air mail facilities accorded them by the State of California and exercised their right to vote in the state's primary elections.

"We are cognizant of the fact that while the war is being fought and won on battlefields in far flung places, the very principles for which men have died are being sadly abused at home by the demagogues," a Japanese American soldier stated.

"It may be just a short time before this war will be won and over, but the big war against racial prejudice, intolerance and misunderstanding will go on for an indefinite time."

The statement, which commented on the participation of the Japanese Americans in the California elections, added:

"The right to vote and the exercise of that right are so im-

portant and precious to free people as life itself. That is the reason so many of us are in the army as volunteers.

"For the nisei soldier, his place in the ranks of millions of Americans in this global war is almost unfathomable. He does know enough about the workings of American politics, however, to appreciate the power he wields as an individual with the ballot on election day. He knows that his vote is the most potent weapon he has at his command to silence those pseudo-patriots and rabble-rousing self-styled leaders who stop at nothing, to preach the doctrines of hatred, bigotry, discrimination, intolerance and racial prejudice. Men like these in positions of public trust are a dangerous evil, which, like Nazism and fascism, must be rooted out of our public offices.

"Your opinion expressed through the election box is as possible a weapon in today's struggle as the gun in a soldier's hand."

## U. S. Marines, Army Combat Troops Back Loyalty of Nisei, Says Officer's Letter

**Marine Lieutenant Tells of Serving With Japanese Americans**

NEW YORK — Marines and Army combat soldiers who have been in action against the Japanese enemy "will swear by the loyalty and integrity of the Japanese American soldiers," 2nd Lieut. Morris Kritz declares in a letter published by the New York daily newspaper, PM, on May 4.

PM has been conducting an editorial campaign against Mayor LaGuardia's protest on the relocation of Japanese-Americans in New York, and has published daily interviews of representative evacuees relocating in New York City.

The letter from the Marine lieutenant from "somewhere in the Southwest Pacific" declared:

"I have just finished reading Harold Lavine's articles on west coast prejudices against Japanese-Americans in the January 21 issue of PM.

"I am now serving my 19th month in the SWPA (Southwest Pacific area) and, during all this time, I have had constant dealings with Japanese-American boys serving in our Army. When I first arrived in this theater of operations I was an enlisted man and I shared a tent with one of these boys. There were a number of other Japanese Americans in the company and there wasn't a single man in that outfit who didn't like and respect these boys. They are all courageous, sincere, loyal and swell fellows.

"At my present station where I am serving with a Marine unit, we have a group of these Japanese-American boys. They are, like the previous group mentioned, good Americans and well liked.

"If there are any groups of Americans who have reason to hate and distrust Japs, they are the Marine and Army units who have been in combat with them. Yet, all of these Marines and Army boys swear by the integrity and loyalty of the Japanese American soldiers.

"Many of these boys have parents and sisters and brothers in relocation centers. They are there not because they aren't loyal Americans, but because the Government has seen fit to put them there as purely precautionary measures. Though they are not happy about it, the Japanese American soldiers understand and appreciate the necessity for such action under the circumstances.

"My own sentiments and that of others with whom I have discussed Mr. Lavine's article are that Japanese-Americans should have the same rights guaranteed

to them as are guaranteed to any other American — the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

"I would like to see jailed and convicted for making murderous threats the members of those organizations who wrote District Attorney Hower of Los Angeles County that they 'have pledged to kill any Japanese who come to California now or after the war.'

2nd Lieut. Morris Kritz. "P. S. Just as I was on the last paragraph of this letter, one of our Japanese-American boys walked in to see how I'm doing."

## King Clarifies Voting Rights Of Evacuees

**Those in Camps May Register, Vote by Absentee Method**

AMACHE, Colo. — A statement, clarifying the voting status of American citizens of Japanese ancestry in war relocation centers, is contained in a letter from Cameron King, registrar of voters in San Francisco, to R. B. Corzens, assistant director of the WRA, which was released in the Granada Pioneer this week.

King, who was the defendant in a suit brought last year by the Native Sons of the Golden West in an effort to strike the names of American citizens of Japanese ancestry off the roll of voters in San Francisco, stated that the permanent residence of an evacuee in a relocation center is retained in the place from which he was evacuated.

King declared that Japanese American evacuees can register and vote as absentee voters from the residence from which they were removed.

He also was of the opinion that those evacuees attaining their majority in the relocation camps "retain the right of claiming as their permanent residence the abode from which they, with their parents, were removed."

## Held in Phoenix On Draft Charge

POSTON, Ariz. — William Harumi Nakasaki of Poston, who refused to appear for his preinduction physical examination on April 16, was taken to Phoenix by FBI agents recently, according to the Poston Chronicle.

Nakasaki was the only person who refused to appear for the mass physicals of April 16.



# Nisei Reveals 11th Hour Escape from Bataan

## S. F. Chapter Fund Given to National JACL

Balance in Treasury Sent to Headquarters By Finance Committee

The balance remaining in the chapter treasury of the San Francisco JACL, a sum amounting to almost \$2000, was turned over to the use of the national headquarters of the Japanese American Citizens League this week by the unanimous vote of members of the San Francisco unit's emergency finance committee.

The statement accompanying the check to the National JACL declared that the committee "felt that this would be the most expedient step to take inasmuch as the San Francisco chapter is at present non-existent and the members of the chapter are now scattered all over the United States."

The statement, which commended the work of the National JACL since evacuation, was signed by Toby Ogawa, New York; Dave M. Tatsu, Topaz; Henry Tani, St. Louis, Mo.; Yasuo William Abuko, Philadelphia; Dr. Tokuji Hedani, Washington, D. C.; Teiko Ishida, New York; Lieut. Carl T. Hirota, Camp Carson, Colo.; Dr. George Babe, Chicago, and Dr. Kazuo Terasaki, Chicago.

"We sincerely hope that this fund will be of help in your endeavor to combat all forms of discrimination and race prejudice against loyal Americans of Japanese ancestry," the statement added.

## Japanese American From Hawaii Hurt On Italian Front

WASHINGTON—The War Department announced on April 30 that Sgt. Raymond M. Yokoyama, whose next of kin is his father, Akira Yokoyama, 4141 Waiiale Ave., Honolulu 55, had been wounded in action recently on the Italian front.

Sgt. Yokoyama is a member of the noted 100th Infantry Battalion in Italy.

## Runaway Horses Drag Farmer to Death on Price Farm

PRICE, Utah—Sukumata Kinoshita, 72, farmer, died on May 1 of injuries suffered when he was dragged by a runaway team of horses.

Harrowing his farm, which is about a mile south of Price, Mr. Kinoshita was standing on the narrow when the team began running and he was dragged about 100 yards. His daughter ran to him, but he died shortly after she reached him.

He was born in Japan. Besides his two daughters, Mrs. Yasu Aramaki and Mrs. Mary Aramaki, both of Price, five grandsons and two granddaughters survive. Two of his grandsons are in the U. S. army.

## Employer Praises Contribution Of Nisei to U. S. War Effort

MONROVIA, Calif.—Scientific and engineering contributions to the war effort of two American citizens of Japanese ancestry were praised by their employer, J. H. Grayson of the Grayson Manufacturing Company, in a letter to Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes on April 29.

"After December 7, 1941, I came out of retirement to develop an idea which would help the war effort," Mr. Grayson wrote. "My assistant, Smoot Katow, was an American-born citizen of Japanese ancestry. He was a graduate of Berkeley and Cal Tech. He worked with me night and day on the development of the tungsten carbide milling cutter, knowing full well that our objective was to aid in the defeat of the country of his

## Japanese American in Italy



The War Department identifies this Army Signal Corps photo as that of a United States Soldier of Japanese ancestry at Pastrum on the Italian front.

## Anti-Evacuee Spokesmen Would Permit Return of Loyal Nisei To West Coast After War

Wirin, Rev. Fertig Debate With Lechner In Los Angeles Program

LOS ANGELES—Speaking in defense of the rights of Japanese Americans, Attorney A. L. Wirin and the Rev. Fred Fertig debated the affirmative in a radio debate on the subject, "Would Prohibiting the Return of the Japanese to California be a Threat to Other Minority Groups?" over Los Angeles station KFAC on May 7.

Noteworthy concessions were drawn from John R. Lechner of the Americanism Educational League and J. Wesley Cupp, Los Angeles attorney, who debated the negative.

Admitting that discriminatory treatment of a minority racial groups solely because of race was ordinarily unconstitutional, Cupp conceded that it would be appropriate to permit the return of the evacuated Japanese "after the duration." Lechner conceded that after the war "loyal" Japanese should be allowed to come back to their homes and businesses in California, but he adhered to the position that "disloyal" Japanese should be excluded from the

Pacific Coast after the end of the war.

The liberty of every American who happens to belong to any minority racial, political or religious group is threatened when any person or group is discriminated against because of color or race, Wirin declared in his opening statement.

"It seems to me to have been the experience of mankind generally as well as the American experience, that those plagued by racial prejudices always pick first on the least popular and most misunderstood racial group in the community. In the South—and in Los Angeles, too, it is the Negro; in California, originally it was the Chinese and the Filipinos—although members of these minority racial groups are now shedding their blood on the same battlefields as our boys," Wirin said.

"For many years now, and particularly at this time, the windmills of prejudice and hysteria are being fanned in California against citizens of the United States with yellow skins whose parents were born in Japan. We must remember, too, that fighting on our side, shoulder to shoulder with our boys, are boys whose ancestors were born in Japan; that they are loyal American citizens born in this country and giving their lives on the battle fronts in Italy today to maintain the American ideals of fair play to all persons—no matter their color or race."

Rev. Fertig pointed out the activity and thinking of minority groups since the war as evidence of their deep concern with the racial implications of evacuation.

The minority press in Los Angeles has shown "unanimous interest in the campaign of racism that has been directed against the Japanese in America," he said, and gave as examples the B'nai and B'rith Messenger, Jewish publication; the Los Angeles Tribune and the California Eagle, Negro newspapers; the Associated Filipino Press and the Pacific Pathfinder, Filipino publications.

Fertig quoted the resolution of the Chinese Christian Youth Conference, held in 1943 at Lake Tahoe, which condemned anti-Japanese American activity as "un-American, undemocratic and un-Christian."

## Japanese American Sergeant Was Ordered Evacuated to Corregidor by Gen. MacArthur

Sgt. Arthur Komori Tells Story to Honolulu Star-Bulletin Writer, Disclosing Plane Flight to Australia as Philippines Fell to Japan.

HONOLULU, T. H.—The epic story of a Japanese American sergeant from Maui who fought with the defenders of Bataan and whose 11th hour evacuation to Corregidor and later to Australia was ordered by General MacArthur was told here recently by Technical Sergeant Arthur Komori in an exclusive interview with Lawrence Nakatsuka of the Honolulu Star-Bulletin. The interview was cleared by army authorities for publication.

Nakatsuka described Sgt. Komori as the "only Hawaii-born soldier of the United States army known to have escaped from the Philippines after the enemy's invasion."

"The stocky 28-year old Maui-born soldier lived through three months of jungle hell on Bataan, then was ordered evacuated to Corregidor the day before the battered peninsula fell. After five days on the Rock, he was flown out to Australia and safety, 2,000 miles away," Nakatsuka reported.

Sgt. Komori was attached to General MacArthur's headquarters in Australia for two years before being ordered back to an army base on the mainland for temporary duty. He has since returned to the south Pacific battle area.

With some reluctance, "like talking about a bad dream," Sgt. Komori narrated his story to Nakatsuka:

"I am a 'nisei'—an American of Japanese ancestry—and you know what the Japs would have done to me if they caught some one of their own race fighting against them on Bataan."

"That's why I carried a .45 automatic with me all the time I was on Bataan. I was prepared for the worst. For a long time I had made up my mind that I would fight to the end and, if necessary, blow my brains out rather than be captured. I had heard about Jap atrocities."

"I owe my life to the evacuation order from Gen. MacArthur which came to me the day before Bataan fell. I don't like to think what would have happened if the order hadn't arrived on time."

(Sgt. Komori recalled that he was attached to the U. S. air force headquarters in Manila at the time of the outbreak of war.)

"When Manila was threatened our headquarters moved to Corregidor, but they bombed the hell out of us there too."

"Their bombers blasted our thick concrete barracks in which we were living and they strafed us as we ran into the bushes for cover."

"After a couple of days I moved over to Bataan on a barge and from then on until April 8, the day before Bataan gave up its heroic fight, I lived in hell with thousands of other American and Filipino defenders in the jungles on that peninsula."

"At first, we had some army chow which wasn't so bad but later we had only rice and gravy for a month."

"When tomatoes and pickles ran out, we had to boil young tree leaves as substitute for greens. For meat we hunted monkeys."

"I didn't eat monkey meat at first, but one day when I got really hungry and saw it being broiled over a fire—it smelled awfully good—I ate some of it. It tasted like roast turkey and reminded me of the turkey dinner I had on Corregidor on Christmas Day."

"We also had mule meat, horse meat and carabao. All tasted OK."

"We were constantly bombed from the air, and foxholes became the safest places for us. Flies made a mess of things and they got into the food, what little we had left."

"I got dysentery for two or three days at a time. Like many of the other fellows I was in a weakened condition and my resistance was low."

"We became exhausted from day and night bombings which kept us awake, and made sleep almost impossible. We were short

of food and worked ceaselessly."

"I was attached to the Philippines department headquarters and one of my jobs was to move metal cabinets around in the thick jungle. It was tough going."

"We held out on Bataan until April 8. There was death, disease and suffering on all sides. I had somehow kept up my health, even though I was weak from lack of sleep and food."

"Then I was ordered to Corregidor. I made the trip to the rock on a launch with two colonels."

"It was broad daylight. When we got halfway over, a Jap bomber dropped a string of bombs not far behind us, but we luckily escaped unharmed."

"I lived in the tunnel on Corregidor until the morning of April 13 when I was flown out by orders of Gen. Wainwright, for whom I had done some translation work on Bataan."

"The plane was an old army trainer, a biplane seating four of us. It had crash landed on the island earlier to bring medical supplies."

"The old biplane was actually one-third of the entire U. S. air force in the Philippines at that time. There were only three planes in our hands that were in flying condition. It was a wonder that our rattling plane flew at all."

"The 'air strip' was a rocky beach and we were lucky to get the plane off the ground. I guess plane hadn't hit a rock which bumped the plane about 50 feet into the air to help in the take-off."

"I alternated with the pilot in flying the old crate to Panay, some 250 miles south in the central Philippines. My previous flying experience came in handy. And I was thankful I had my CAA (Civil Aeronautics Authority) pilot's license which I received in Hawaii in 1941."

"We landed at Panay on April 13. Three days later the Japs occupied the islands."

"A Mitchell medium bomber flew us to Mindanao, 250 miles further south. We landed on a secret landing strip which the Japs had located and bombed that day. The field was still blazing when we landed."

"Another Mitchell bomber which had to have one of its engines overhauled, flew us out at midnight for Australia. Incidentally, both Mitchells were in the raids on Manila, Cebu and Davao, originating from Australia under Brig. Gen. Ralph Royce."

"It was a long, nonstop flight from Mindanao to Australia which took about 15 hours. We had to hedge-hop 25 feet above the sea and at other times dodge among the many small islands to escape detection by the Japs. Otherwise the trip was uneventful."

"Looking back now I'm surprised I wasn't shot at accidentally by our own men during the hectic days on Bataan and Corregidor."

"My speech and my American ways must have convinced them I was a real American and not a camouflaged Jap posing as an American soldier."

## 249 Evacuees Will Take Farm Jobs

PORTLAND, Ore.—The Portland office of the War Food Administration announced last week that 249 evacuees from relocation centers in California and Arizona left on May 2 for farm work in Idaho and Eastern Oregon.



## PACIFIC CITIZEN

Official Publication of the  
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LARRY TAJIRI EDITOR

## EDITORIALS:

## LaGuardia and Racism

Further evidence that the program of resettlement of evacuated Japanese Americans throughout the country will become a target for future political attacks can be seen in the recent protest of Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia of New York City.

According to a competent news observer who has covered the New York city hall beat for the past four years, the mayor, as astute a politician as the city has ever had, must have weighed the strength of various political factions before proceeding to taking issue with the Federal government over the resettlement program.

According to this observer, LaGuardia has been the mayor of New York since 1933, and although the next city elections will not be until 1945, the Mayor may have felt the Japanese American issue might prove an ideal one in building up his political stature, which suffered somewhat in the recent split in the American Labor party, of which he was a leader. Renewed support of LaGuardia might place him in a strong position as either a candidate for reelection or for a senatorial post.

As an astute and able politician, he could hardly have failed to realize that his protest would alienate some part, at least, of the liberal and progressive support that he has enjoyed. There is a slight possibility that the mayor has not at all prepared for the tremendous verbal and editorial spankings he has received since that time from the press, liberals and church groups, as well as the government, and that he underrated the very large group that did rally to the defense of the Japanese Americans in New York.

At his press conference LaGuardia stated that it would be dangerous to bring more Japanese Americans into the city because the Chinese residents would resent their presence and might resort to violence. In view of the long, law-abiding record of New York's Chinese population, such a statement is not only ridiculous, it impugns the character of the Chinese, and it is the sort of double talk that more experienced racists use.

Up to this time LaGuardia has been extremely fair and impartial in dealing with race issues. New York City, with a racial mixture found nowhere else in the country, has always needed a mayor who could deal forcefully and fairly with all racial questions. Until this time, New York has had such a mayor in LaGuardia. His stand and his attitude have been always fair, and his sudden turnabout on the nisei question stunned his liberal and progressive following.

Outside of the fact that the mayor is the head of the largest city in the country, his political prestige and importance extend far beyond the limits of New York. He is chairman of the eastern section of the Association of Mayors. Should LaGuardia find the Japanese American issue a profitable one, it can be expected that other mayors will use it to their own advantage.

If, as the Philadelphia Record declared recently, this is one of the mayor's mistakes, there is hope that the setback received by LaGuardia over this issue will put him back in line with the decent element, where surely he belongs. As able as LaGuardia is, he has proved at the same time a volatile and occasionally bumptious mayor, whose judgment has at times been hasty and in error. We fervently hope that this is one of the mayor's mistakes, a mistake for which rectification can be made.

## Resettlement of Evacuees

Although several isolated instances of discrimination have been reported in eastern states in recent weeks, the government's individual resettlement program for Japanese American evacuees in war relocation camps is moving forward at a normal pace. Approximately 500 persons are leaving the WRA camps weekly for seasonal, trial and permanent relocation.

It becomes increasingly apparent, however, as time goes on that the present resettlement program, stressing relocation in the midwest and east, cannot hope to return more than half of the evacuees in the camps to the normal life of American communities. Recent surveys at Heart Mountain and at Poston have indicated that the majority of the people remaining in these government-operated camps have little hope of relocating under present conditions. Many have dissipated in two years of living in the camps whatever financial resources they possessed after evacuation. Those with large families are loathe to surrender the comparative security of a relocation camp to face possible discrimination on the outside, and it should be remembered that reported instances of prejudicial treatment are often magnified out of all proportion to the actual happenings by the time the news has made the rounds of the WRA centers. Many of the immigrant parent group whose average age is approximately 60 years, feel that it is too late to attempt a new start in a new community, often at a new trade. And there are those who hold back in the hope that the evacuated area on the west coast will eventually be opened so that they may return to the homes and businesses they left behind. An early revocation of the present military exclusion order may hasten the return of this last group to normal civilian life. Finally, there are those who have cut themselves off completely from the world they once knew, who are now after two years behind the barbed-wire psychologically unprepared to return to the competitive world beyond the watchtowers. For them, a second forced evacuation would be as disheartening as was the first.

The present stress of the War Relocation Authority is on outside resettlement. It is obvious that if the evacuees remain for the duration and after in the camps they will become so institutionalized that any program of voluntary resettlement for the remaining group will become virtually impossible. The prospect for their readjustment in a normal society diminishes daily.

The emphasis of the WRA on family and group resettlement is realistic recognition of the factors which deter many from leaving the camps. Other steps also may be necessary. Compensation for some of the losses incurred in the evacuation will assist many to relocate. A nominal guarantee of continuing security will help. Wholesale evacuation based on racial ancestry was an unprecedented act. Similarly unprecedented steps may be necessary if the unfortunate and inescapable abuses of mass evacuation are to be rectified. The alternative will be the maintenance of permanent centers for those otherwise eligible evacuees who are unable to achieve outside relocation, and this nation cannot morally justify another group of "Indian reservations."

## A Slight Exaggeration

On May 5 Representative John Costello of California arose in the House of Representatives and made this statement:

"On May 10 there will be dedicated a new hostel for Japanese located within the very shadows of the Brooklyn Navy Yard. Here are to be placed 800 Japanese, both aliens as well as citizens, and that in spite of the fact that no one definitely can vouch as to the loyalty of these people."

Rep. Costello has, for over a year now, been the chairman of the house subcommittee investigating resettlement of Japanese Americans. He should, therefore, be among the most informed members of the House on the entire relocation program. He knows the procedure of investigation which every evacuee must undergo before his release. He knows that government agencies make an investigation of every evacuee.

And surely Mr. Costello should be sure of his facts before stating in the House that 800 persons will be placed in Brooklyn.

The Brethern hostel will have accommodations for thirty persons.

# Nisei USA

by LARRY TAJIRI

## Race-Baiting in the Primaries

With the California primaries only a few days away it is now apparent that reactionary politicians have seized on the possibility of an imminent return of Japanese Americans to the west coast as an anti-administration issue. Opposition candidates are bleating the bugles of racism. Race-baiting appears to be a popular political commodity, so long as the attacks are leveled at the Japanese Americans. Some candidates are going as far as promising to keep the evacuees out, if they are elected, although any move to revoke the present restrictions against Japanese Americans remains strictly in the province of the military.

It would seem, upon sober reflection, that any question involving the constitutional rights of any group of American citizens could not possibly be a subject for political debate anywhere north and west of the southern color line. California reactionaries, however, seem determined to force their commonwealth to secede from the Constitution, so far as the rights of a non-Caucasian minority are concerned. And there is, in this election campaign, the spectacle of avowed public leaders seriously discussing the abridement of the birthright of a native American group. It was in all seriousness that Rep. Leroy Johnson of Stockton suggested last year that an unholy coalition of western congressmen with southern white supremacists would accomplish on a national scale what Golden State race-baiters were bent on accomplishing on the west coast. California, if her race mongers succeed, will join the poll-tax south.

Granted that it is in the nature of political opportunism to exploit existing prejudices against persons of Japanese ancestry, the racist nature of the present campaign is a sorry reflection on the characters of the candidates involved. It makes of them mean and bigoted men who would exchange their integrity for political or economic preferment. It bodes ill for other minorities, racial, religious or economic, for the time may come when the axes of their hate may seek bigger and fatter necks.

It may be that the reactionaries have seriously overrated the extent of antagonistic public attitudes toward Japanese Americans. It could be that the "professional race mongers," denounced by Secretary Ickes, may have overdone in viciousness their campaign of hatred. Race-baiting has too recently been the device of Nazi hoodlums, and the analogy will not escape the intelligent citizen. The race laws suggested by the California racists bear an uneasy resemblance to the Nuremberg decrees of Adolf Hitler.

Even in California, of course, the main issue is the administration of President Roosevelt, and the theme song of the opposition is "bureaucracy." However, because of the pledges of the President, Mrs. Roosevelt, Secretary Ickes, Attorney General Biddle and others for the fair and just treatment of Americans of Japanese ancestry, many in the opposition apparently believe that this insistence on democratic treatment, regardless of ancestry, is a vulnerable spot in the administration's armor. They may be mistaken.

It is interesting to note that the administration is being criticized for its insistence upon the extension of democratic rights to the Japanese Americans to the limits of what has been explained as military necessity, and not for an undemocratic action. Certainly, the detention in the immediate months following the evacuation of a group of citizens, 70,000 in fact, without trial or hearing, was not consistent with the concepts of democracy. Detention in relocation centers was, of course, an unfortunate by-product of the evacuation, and the evacuation was not an action of the civilian government but one decreed by a military commander. The reactionaries show themselves for what they are by their callous disinterest in minority rights, the touchstone of democracy itself.

The forthcoming California pri-

maries may determine whether race-baiting is a political asset outside the color-conscious south. It may be recalled that in the California elections two years ago the one congressional contest, in the new 11th district, in which the two contesting candidates expressed opposite views regarding the treatment of minorities, saw the defeat of Al Dingman of Oxnard who campaigned on a "Deport the Japs" platform. The 11th district has been and is still considered one of the centers of anti-evacuee prejudice, particularly because of large extent of participation by Japanese Americans in the Santa Maria and Salinas valleys.

Governor Bricker, in his shameless appeal to California prejudice in his Los Angeles address, has injected the issue of Japanese American resettlement into the presidential campaign. His Los Angeles statement followed the Hearst editorial line, which is not surprising in that the Hearst papers have been the leading west coast boosters of his views, if not his candidacy. When criticized by Secretary Ickes for his statement, the Ohio Governor did not retreat gracefully, but chose to slug it out, issuing a counter-statement in which he charged the New Deal with not understanding the treacherous nature of the "Japs," meaning those in Japan, and exposing his general lack of knowledge of the subject of Americans of Japanese ancestry.

Meanwhile, Mayor LaGuardia has probably discovered by this time that race-baiting Japanese Americans is not the easiest way to win friends and influence people. He must have been pained to find that the sharpest criticism against his protest on Japanese Americans has come from those liberal individuals and groups who have supported him in his past campaigns against Tammany corruption and old guard reaction.

In California the Chester Connors, the Leroy Johnsons, the Clairs, the Wallace Wares and others who would use Japanese Americans as political scapegoats are out to prove that race-baiting pays dividends in popular support. Californians who believe in fair play can answer the race-baiters at the polls.

## the copy desk

## On Ben Kuroki

He (Kuroki) is to us the personification of these brave and intrepid men who are fighting on the Italian front with the 100th Infantry, and 442nd Combat Unit, the men who are just now beginning to do Uncle Sam's uniform. There is only one Ben Kuroki, but there will be many more who follow in his footsteps to prove the loyalty and integrity of the Japanese Americans to the United States....

Ben Kuroki is paying the way for others to follow and though we may not be able to sport any medals we, too, can do our share in helping to build a better understanding between the many races that constitute America. — The Minidoka Irrigator.

## Pacific Letter

"I was wrong in thinking that we were fighting for the Nisei cause; it's much bigger than that. We are fighting so that the dream of freedom justice and equality may be a reality."

"We have learned that wherever freedom is threatened, there we stand in danger; wherever freedom perishes, there, a part of ourselves lies dead. In a world of life and growth this fight is an endless battle."—Letter from a nisei soldier in the South Pacific, printed in the Denson Tribune.

Two ex-Manzanar editors were reported on new jobs this week with Roy Takeno taking over the managing editorship of the Rocky Shimo of Denver and Sue Kumoto editing "Madison Calling," YWCA paper in Madison, Wisconsin.



## Vagaries

### Oldest Nisei . . .

Manzanar relocation center has a candidate for the title of the oldest living nisei in the U. S. He is Harry Nobuteru Sumida, 72 years of age and a wounded veteran of the Spanish-American war. Hit in the leg by a shell during the war with Spain, Sumida draws a disability pension from the U. S. government. . . . William Dennison Stephens, former governor of California who died in Sacramento recently at the age of 85, once commented while Governor of California in 1920 that a race-baiting campaign then in progress against persons of Japanese ancestry was motivated by the political ambitions of the candidates involved. . . . Mayor Harry Cain of Tacoma was the only mayor of a major west coast city to dispute the theory of "a Jap's a Jap" in hearings before the Tolon congressional committee on evacuation in 1942. Mayor Cain held that the loyalty of any citizen, regardless of his racial ancestry, could be established through his organizational affiliations, his record as a citizen and his educational background. Today Mayor Cain is a major in the U. S. Army, attached to invasion headquarters in England. He has seen active service in North Africa and Sicily. His friends have entered his name in the Washington senatorial race.

An investigator of the California Attorney General's office has been questioning Japanese-Americans in Utah regarding their property holdings in California. The object is to ascertain whether or not there has been any violation of the California anti-alien land law. . . . Norman Thomas' new book, "What Is Our Destiny" (Doubleday, Doran, 1944), contains a discussion on the current problems of Japanese-Americans.

John Patric's "Why Japan Was Strong" (Doubleday, Doran, 1943), contains a chapter on a Japanese-American. Author Patric also argues against the detention of Japanese-Americans in relocation camps.

### Arkansas . . .

The recent appearance of Secretary of Interior Ickes resulted in a somewhat heated exchange of views between Mr. Ickes and Rep. Norrell of Arkansas, who has consistently opposed the relocation of Japanese-Americans. Norrell declared: "We had three during the last census, and I want to say to you, sir, that we are expecting you to leave only three Japs in Arkansas when the war is over." Replied Ickes: "You will have to create a new state, I think." Present population of Japanese-Americans in Arkansas is 12,366, including the three who were there before the relocation camps. . . . In his testimony before the House committee Ickes, who has a multitude of federal responsibilities, indicated that he had not welcomed the addition of the WRA. However, the President forced the agency on the Interior Department.

## Organize National Council to Aid in Race Relations

CHICAGO—An American Council on Race Relations, to bring about full democracy in race relations, is being organized on a national wide basis with headquarters in Chicago, it was announced this week by Edwin R. Embree, president of the Julius Rosenwald Fund, the Sun reports.

One of the purposes of the council will be to give assistance to local communities to meet their interracial problems where existing programs seem inadequate. The council also proposes to increase knowledge about racial groups by popular education through the radio, press, motion pictures and other means of mass communication.

Officers of the council will be Clarence E. Pickett, executive secretary of the American Friends Service Committee, president; Charles H. Houston, Washington, D. C., attorney, vice president; Will W. Alexander, vice president of the Rosenwald Fund, vice president and treasurer, and Mrs. Mary Jane Grunsfeld of Chicago, secretary.

## Selma Paper Takes Issue With Criticism of Coast Committee

SELMA, Calif. — The Selma (Calif.) Enterprise on April 20 took to task E. R. Combs, investigator for the State Assembly committee on un-American activities, for declaring that members of the Committee on American Principles and Fair Play are "unconsciously subversive" for advocating fair treatment for Americans of Japanese ancestry.

"We disagree with Mr. Combs on this point and would like to suggest to him that he should not go about the state casting doubts on the patriotism and loyalty of citizens whose records for patriotism are just as good as his own," the Enterprise said.

"While Mr. Combs did not charge the members of the Committee on American Principles and Fair Play with being disloyal," declared the editorial, "he did his best to infer that they are interfering with the war effort or at least with having a 'lofty and de-

tached viewpoint,' as if that in itself is some sort of crime. We wonder just where the country would be if it were not for those who occasionally take their eyes off material things to take a long-range view of national and international problems."

Members of the Fair Play committee, it was pointed out by the Enterprise, include such persons as Robert Gordon Sproul, David P. Barrows, Ray Lyman Wilbur, Robert A. Millikin, Aurelia N. Reinhardt, C. C. Young, Mrs. Alfred McLaughlin, Edgar F. Magnin, Tully C. Knoles, Gerald H. Hagar, Ralph T. Fisher, Bartley C. Crum, Maurice C. Harrison, Irving H. Reichert, Galen M. Fisher, Frank C. Gaines and Mrs. Philip Bancroft.

Chairman of the Fresno group, said the Enterprise, is Dr. Hubert Phillips, and the group includes "men and women who cannot be called subversive by any stretch of the imagination."

### Nisei in Uniform

## Letters From Servicemen

(This is the first of a series of columns dedicated to Americans of Japanese ancestry in uniform. It is contributed by the Crusaders, a group of Japanese-Americans at a war relocation center.)

Behind that uniform, stands what? There stands a nisei service man or servicewoman, a citizen and an individual.

Some volunteered; some were drafted. Why did they volunteer? What did the draft mean to them? Are they happy in their service? How do they feel about things? What do they miss? What do they expect? What are they fighting for?

Do they need us? They do need us. They need our understanding, but not our sympathy. They need our support at home, our efforts toward the very things they are fighting for abroad. They need—the very things they are showing us, their perseverance, their sense of humor, their spunk, grit, a will to live and a will to give.

They write back home to their friends—and their letters mirror their sentiments.

Here are some of them:

An anonymous letter from the South Pacific: "Y'know I'd rather correspond with Hakuji gals than these Nisei who are always crying and moaning about racial prejudice, hatred, and injustice. Most of us look forward to letters to find out how our friends are making out, how everything is back home, and everything in general to boost our morale. . . . I didn't say morals."

"But some of these letters from Nisei are discouraging to say the least. I get even disgusted with some of these guys in the army. How they talk. . . . the world owes 'em a living now."

"Y'know, I believe that this war is the direct cause of the negligence of each one of us. We have forgotten that the price of freedom, equality, and justice is 'eternal vigilance.' We've been too busy in pursuit of our own selfish desires and ambitions."

"As a quotation reads: 'No man is an island entire of its self. Every man is a piece of the continent. Any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in Mankind.'"

"I was wrong in thinking that we were fighting for just the Nisei cause; it's much bigger than that. We are fighting so that the dream of freedom, justice, and equality may be a reality. We have learned that wherever freedom perishes, there, a part of ourselves lies dead. In a world of life and growth this fight is an endless battle."

Letters such as the above, should not only make us aware of our inadequacy as the "home front" but make us proud as Americans that "our" boys are not only serving for the rights and opportunities and privileges for Nisei, but are serving for the betterment of a greater America.

A Poston volunteer, who was subjected to limited service, recently surprised his sister in writing, not from his original station in a service command, but from the combat training camp in Camp Blanding, Florida.

"You asked how come I came down here. Well, I asked for overseas duty. Yes, I know what I'm doing. I really believe that since I'm going to live in this country, I'd better fight for it. Being in a position like we are, the Nisei being in the army is not enough. They've got to fight to prove themselves."

It was signed: Pvt. Isamu Sugimoto, Co. D. 232nd I. T. Bn., Camp Blanding, Florida.

Quite some time ago, a penciled missive from Moore General Hospital arrived. At first glance, one might have thought the handwriting childish. But a closer look showed immediately that each letter was written in a quivering, yet painstaking manner. Inside the envelope was a full page letter; a work of perseverance. It said:

"Pardon me for not writing. As for me, I am O. K. and recuperating fairly. I am back in U.S.A. Nothing much; not too bad, but I got wounded in action. My right arm is hurt, so I am writing with the left hand."

And then he continued: "Before I close, please give Pfc. Tsuyoshi Furukawa a prayer for you'll never see him again."

That letter was the painstaking effort of Clyde Kawakami, now convalescing in Swannanoa, North Carolina's Moore General Hospital. He returned to the states at the early part of this year from the Italian front.

Another 100th Infantryman, Pfc. Noboru Hirasuna of Co. B, wrote a while back: "Yes, I was wounded; got hit on the 5th of November. . . . not serious of course, but severe enough to have kept me here in the hospital for the past three months. I'll probably stay here until the end of next month. I was fortunate enough to miss the worst part of the Italian campaign, but that's why I feel a little guilty, lying here in comparative safety and comfort of this hospital while up there on the front my friends and buddies are sacrificing their lives."

Here was a fellow, who had already been exposed to fire and had been injured, and yet he feels "guilty" lying in comparative safety. . . . recovering.

A portion of an Air WAC's letter reads as follows:

"When war came to our shores, many believed the worst about us because they didn't or hadn't been taught that we are different from the Japanese 'over there.' It was with a sickening heart that I realized that the future of the coming generation was going to have to undergo heartaches and ridicule if something wasn't done. This 'awful mess' will go down in print as Americans will never forget Pearl Harbor."

"By being a member of the WAC's, I meet people from all walks of life. Every friend I make and every good impression I give will make it that much easier for my kids and others too, to sit in that history class without being hurt as Pearl Harbor is discussed. Where there is understanding and knowledge of the whole situation, there will be broadmindedness and less ridicule. If I can prevent a little of that

## From the Frying Pan

By BILL HOSOKAWA

### The Race-Baiters Are Helping Tojo's Work

This is the story, and some of the views, of a young Singapore-born Chinese. His name when I first knew him in Singapore was Charlie S. See. Now, as a member of a Chinese night club entertainment team touring the States it is Li-Sun.

"The name See," he explains, "didn't sound Chinese enough. It wasn't good for business, so my wife changed it for me."

That, it seems, is the essence of the outlook of this stranger to America. Not the implication that his wife dominates him, but the point that he is willing to accept change.

Charlie See was one of the big young men of Singapore. In his mid-thirties, he had made a trip around the world, he was the manager of one of the three big amusement parks of the city, he owned shares in a couple of newspapers and several rubber plantations. He was wealthy, and able to live an indulgent life. Instead he chose to be progressive, and many of the stunts that other amusement parks picked up were originally introduced by Charlie See at his own place.

A few weeks before Pearl Harbor, Charlie See got an American visa, packed up something like 2,000 sarongs and trunkloads of other items, and headed for the United States by way of Java. He was in Bali, taking movies, when the war came.

He was in Capetown, South Africa, when Singapore fell. Seven ships had left a Java port together. Only See's reached its destination.

Months later he landed in New York, practically broke. He met a California-born Chinese girl, a professional dancer and married her. Then he discovered that Chinese in America had only two obvious vocational choices—operating a hand laundry or waiting tables.

To hell with it, he said, and decided to learn to dance. Six weeks later he had picked up enough of the finer points from his wife's tutelage, and was ready for a try-out.

As a dance team, Li-Sun and Jadin Wong got their first billing at \$50 a week. Since the two of them were working, an income of \$25 a week each was nothing to cheer about.

Six months later they danced in Hollywood for ten times the pay, and now the couple, together with other Chinese girls, are on a night club circuit at a comfortable income.

Li-Sun's philosophy is no less interesting than the story of his career.

"I live from day to day," he says, "and try to get what happiness I can out of the things I do. When will the war be over? Two years? Four years? Six years?"

"Who knows what will have happened to Singapore and all my holdings there in that time. Maybe I will get them back. Maybe I will not. I can't just stand still here and wait for the war to end until I find out what happened to my property. And so I must make the best of circumstances that are not my fault, or anyone's fault. What else is there to do?"

In many ways Charlie's position is similar to that of the nisei evacuees. Charlie has some advantages: natural ability, experience. The nisei have many more advantages: American citizenship, greater knowledge of their native land, American education.

Charlie's ability to adapt himself to circumstances should be an example to many nisei who have not found the courage or ambition to leave the relocation centers. Already Charlie has new ideas. He's going to sell sarong prints and designs to the American public for summer wear, and he's going to make a success of the endeavor.

Charlie is not unaware of the plight of the nisei. And he views the attacks of American racists with misgivings, for as an Asiatic he is suspicious of white supremacy arguments.

"These politicians who attack Japanese-Americans are only making it harder for the United Nations to win back Japanese-occupied areas," Charlie declares. "They are supplying Japanese

heartache, the 'harvest' because of my efforts, will be a rich one to me."

This Nisei Air WAC is Frances Iritani, stationed at Tyndall Field in Panama City, Florida.

propagandists in Malaya and elsewhere with the most powerful kind of ammunition to fight against the Allies.

"The native peoples of southern Asia have never had a square deal from Europeans—except in the Philippines—and they are ready to believe anything bad about the white people. How can they believe United Nations promises of racial equality and freedom when they hear that American citizens, because they are of Asiatic descent are discriminated against by some people in the United States, which is supposed to be the greatest democracy?"

That is a question which will loom increasingly larger as the land offensives against Japanese-occupied areas begin. The native American racists must be impressed that with each verbal blow they take at American minorities—to inflate their egos or bid for a vote—they are making the American service man's job proportionately more dangerous and difficult.

## CALLING

### All Chapters!

By Hito Okada

CONTRIBUTIONS: We wish to thank the following for their contributions to national headquarters, Mr. Tatsugi Okajima \$10.00, New York City, Mr. S. Tane \$10.00, Elk Park, Mont.; Anonymous \$25.00, Camp Savage Minn.; Mr. Takashi Mori, \$5.00, Grand Meadow, Minn.; Mr. Joseph Dan and Jun Oniki \$20.00, Mt. Olympus Chapter JACL; Mr. Geo. Saito 50c, Columbus, Ohio; messrs. Abo, \$2.00, Rupert, Idaho; and the San Francisco chapter \$2023.45. The contribution from the San Francisco Chapter has been placed in the JACL savings account to be held as a reserve fund.

### BUCK-A-MONTH CLUB

The latest members to the Buck-a-Month Club are Anonymous, Camp Savage, Minn.; Mr. Y. B. Tamura, Salt Lake City; Mr. Frank Tsuchiya, Granada, Colo., and Misses Helen and Kimoto Toyota, Salt Lake City, making our total membership 62. A reprint of an article in the recent Fortune magazine is now being mailed to members.

### OUR THANKS

To our good friend in Arizona, Mr. Tsutomu Ikeda. We wish to thank him for the delicious Arizona grapefruit that he delivered here personally. Mr. A. D. Bonus sent headquarters a very interesting and tasty box of candy, which the staff and visitors here enjoyed. I hear the ladies in the office received a box of Yardley soap last week from Mr. Bonus, so the masculine members of the staff had no compunctions about helping themselves to the candy.

### ACLU

Application cards for membership in either the Southern or Northern California branches of the American Civil Liberties Union are available here at Headquarters. Those who are interested may write here for application cards.

### JACL PINS

Since there have been several orders for JACL pins lately, this is to advise our members that they may be still obtained at National Headquarters, Mid-West office, or the Tri-State office at \$2.00 a pin.

## Arkansas College Purchases Mural

DENSON, Ark. — Hendrix college in Conway, Ark., which recently held a month-long exhibit of the works of Henry Sugimoto, Japanese American artist, has purchased his mural, "Arrival in Jerome," it was announced here.



## TIMELY TOPICS

By SABURO KIDO

### Evacuees Express Hope of Integration

During our travels, we have been impressed with the fact that a large number of Nisei who have gone to the Middle West or the Atlantic seaboard have the genuine desire to lose themselves in a new community and be forgotten. We admired them for this outlook because it indicated a sincere wish for complete integration and eventual assimilation. We also heard the fear expressed about Nisei organizing their own group and thus falling into the same type of groove they had prior to evacuation on the Pacific Coast.

If conditions were normal, there would be little doubt that the "New America" east of the Rockies would be able to absorb the Nisei without a ripple being created. But inasmuch as we are in the midst of a gigantic war with Japan as one of the enemies, persons with Japanese blood are going to be singled out. The community may want to remain indifferent but the agitators from the Pacific Coast and the race-baiters who are not the exclusive products of California are continuously spreading their venomous message.

### Lechner Completes Midwestern Tour

For instance, John R. Lechner of Los Angeles, whose flag-waving and race-baiting is well known, has recently completed a tour of the Middle West and the Pacific Northwest. He visited Detroit and other cities, warning about the dangerous "Japs" and so forth. His favorite angle is that the rest of the country does not know those of Japanese parentage as well as California hate-mongers do. Excepting for the Hearst papers, it has been fortunate that very little attention has been paid to his rantings. After his Salt Lake City debacle at the public gathering sponsored by the local American Federation of Labor, it seems as if his speeches are no longer advertised to the public.

Only recently we have read in a church bulletin about John Lechner being born in Austria and that he became an American citizen through the naturalization of his father. His birthplace is supposed to be 100 miles away from whence Adolf Hitler started his life. During the World War I, Lechner was a corporal in the United States Army. And so as someone remarked, if a "Jap's a Jap," under the same reasoning, an "Austrian is an Austrian."

Since last summer, we were becoming aware of the fact that powerful interests in California were taking the offensive and sending speakers to other states to stir up hatred. Chambers of commerce, fruit and vegetable growers, floriculturists, and numerous others who were afraid of the competition from the returning Japanese were suspected of being the motivating force. The first sign of an organized anti-move in Colorado began immediately after a California speaker had visited that area. The same was the case of eastern Oregon. It was evident that Utah was going to be the bulwark against the inland march of race-hatred of the stepping stone. Although the onslaught in Utah was repelled, the seeds have been planted as evidenced by the action of the Salt Lake City realty board, denial of business licenses and so forth.

### Nisei Will Not Be Forgotten Politically

The comments of Governor Bricker of Ohio, Governor Edge of New Jersey, Mayor LaGuardia, and others all point to the fact that the Nisei are not going to be forgotten for the duration of this war. Instead of being permitted to lose themselves, the Nisei must fight to win their place in the community. In the long run, this may be for the best. It may give the public at large the opportunity to know who the Nisei are so that all suspicion will be eliminated. Furthermore, a strong group of friends organized when the situation is difficult can lay a firm foundation for the future.

Simply because a few nasty re-

marks are made by public officials is no sign that the public at large feels that way. This is the case of New York City, Cleveland, Cincinnati and other cities of the state of Ohio which have given a welcome reception to the Nisei through their active resettlement committees. Some communities are going to be unfriendly. The WRA is checking over the field to avoid sending evacuees into such regions. So far, with few exceptions, the program has been successful.

Every Nisei who resettles must go out with the determination to find a place for himself and for others to follow. When we look at this problem from the long range viewpoint, there are indications that some are too short-sighted and selfish. They are too busy trying to make money and neglecting public relations. Where groups have been organized to further better understanding, the results have been noticeable. For instance, the Nisei in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, have organized a speaker's bureau with leading citizens of the community as their advisers. Here and there, we hear of similar efforts being exerted.

We believe that if every Nisei will consider himself as the emissary of goodwill, a great deal of the harm that agitators like Lechner try to do can be offset. This is particularly true in regions where the public has not made up its mind as yet. California selfish interests know that if the Middle West and the East should accept those of Japanese ancestry, they will have won the fight for exclusion from the Pacific Coast but lost the bigger and more important battle by giving the Nisei the opportunity to find new homes and rallying the nation east of the Rockies to their support. The Nisei must not overlook this important objective and goal. They can turn the tragic evacuation to their advantage. The Californians have come to recognize this fact. And that is the reason why speakers are being sent to stir up hatred.

The Nisei in the relocation centers must not let the trouble-makers arouse the fear to go into the "free zone." The Issei may be tired of starting out anew. The centers can be their haven for rest and security. The youth, however, must have the pioneering spirit for adventure. They should see the new regions outside of the Pacific Coast. As one newcomer said, "As long as one remains in the relocation center, the center complex becomes stronger. Once a person visits the outside, he no longer desires to remain as a center resident."

## EDITORIAL DIGEST

### Servicemen Say PHILADELPHIA RECORD

"It is significant that some of the strongest protests against persecution of Japanese Americans has come from members of our armed forces," the Philadelphia Record declared in an editorial on April 29. "One such letter was signed by three soldiers overseas." "The test of a democracy," the Record said, "is its attitude toward a popular minority, but towards an unpopular minority." "As one serviceman put it, the Record added, 'it ill becomes the alien farmers of North Jersey to assail Japanese Americans whose brothers and sons have done what he called a 'magnificent job' of fighting.'"

Commenting on Mayor La Guardia's protest, the Record observed that the Little Flower once said that "when he makes a mistake it is a 'beaut.'"

"This is one of the 'beauts'."

### Capt. Ikuno, Wife Visit in Preston

PRESTON, Idaho—Capt. Frank M. Ikuno, now stationed at Camp Crowder, Mo., visited in Preston, Idaho, recently with his wife and daughter, Karen Judith, of Neosho, Missouri, at the home of Mrs. Ikuno's mother, Mrs. K. Kanow. Mrs. Ikuno and her daughter have also visited relatives in Salt Lake City and Rock Springs, Wyoming.

## Nisei Prisoner of Germans Praises Red Cross Parcels

HONOLULU, T. H.—A letter written from a German prison camp has been received by the family of Pvt. Hiroshi Hamada of Honolulu, who was taken prisoner while fighting in Italy, the Star-Bulletin reports.

Pvt. Hamada, son of Mr. and Mrs. Matsutaro Hamada, wrote he was in fine physical condition, and inserted a note of thanks to the International Red Cross for food gifts he has been receiving each week.

His letter to his brother, Mutsuo, said:

"Please ask the members of the

family to spread the word that the Red Cross is doing everything possible and to have Mom and Pop do everything they can for the Red Cross, because it means a lot to us."

According to Pvt. Hamada, the Red Cross packages distributed to war prisoners each week contain a can each of corned beef, spam, liver paste, coffee and milk, and one-half pound each of chocolate, cheese and sugar, and a box of crackers, oleomargarine, three packages of cigarettes and soap.

Pvt. Hamada's letter bore the address of a German transient prison camp near Munich.

## Front-Line Soldier Criticizes Activities of U. S. Race-Baiters

### JUST Incidentally

By Dale Oka

### Pleasant Experiences In Traveling

DETROIT — The missus and I were privileged last week-end to acquire a couple of train accommodations to Chicago and Milwaukee. It was an interesting and a profitable trip (from the standpoint of morale.) After months of unaccustomed daily toil in a war plant, it was truly invigorating and well worthwhile, however brief the trip, and with all due consideration to the physically uncomfortable aspects of traveling under wartime exigencies.

The trips are made more bearable and the hours between stations considerably shortened by our traveling companions, most of whom are members of the armed forces. As far as I am concerned, democracy is not a decadent word on trains.

The courtesy and consideration accorded us by both servicemen and civilian passengers indeed was a pleasant experience. Even after they discern the fact that we are Japanese Americans they are just as cordial and friendly as anyone can be. Somehow it seems to me that they go out of their way to be nice to us. But when I analyze it coldly, I appreciate the fact that that is the way most Americans are. We Americans just naturally enjoy life. Racial discriminations seem to disappear magically in the light of our common heritage, our sense of humor and the ability to talk intelligently.

The picture of Mike, a soldier of Irish descent, assisting a tiny Negro tot with a drink of water, of a young American mother and her 4-year old son, Bobby, hobnobbing with a Nisei couple, and of a serviceman of Jewish descent, a lady traveler engaged in an animated conversation and laughter with a Nisei girl are vivid testimonies to the happy success of our way of life.

Aside from experiencing the same pleasantries as the time we first ventured on a train last year enroute to Detroit, and the delight of beholding my wife's two brothers after a separation of approximately two years and becoming acquainted with the new wife of one of the brothers, the week-end trip was made considerably more interesting by running across old acquaintances.

In the Chicago WRA office (where we were treated with the utmost consideration, especially by Miss Merian Kanatani), I had the pleasant surprise of greeting Thomas Masuda, well-known Seattle lawyer whom I first met in Poston, Arizona, and George Nishida, an old-time friend from California. The two apparently are engrossed in a nation-wide tour, probing into employment possibilities. The brief stopover in the Windy City was dampened, however, by the absence of Vernon Kennedy, supervisor of the Chicago WRA office, whose acquaintance we made while he was affiliated with the administrative staff in the Poston relocation center.

Yes, traveling is fun. But I don't believe we will indulge in another trip (of our own free will) for some time to come and

DES MOINES, Ia. — Japanese-American soldiers who are giving their lives for the United States in Italy "are the real Americans, not those rabble-rousers who sit safely in the states and preach race hatred," Pvt. Jess Benton wrote the Des Moines Register from "somewhere in Italy" in a letter published on May 7.

"In your Open Forum and in Time magazine I have read several letters denouncing all Japanese-Americans and an article in Time telling about a Legion commander in California advocating the ouster of all Japanese after the war," Pvt. Benton declared: "Letters of this type make my blood boil. Such ignorant, bigoted, narrow-minded people should be the ones that are shipped out. They have no place in the world we are fighting for."

"I have been with boys of Japanese descent for quite some time now, and proud to have them for buddies. You wouldn't find a better bunch of boys anywhere. These boys are giving their lives for the United States. They are the real Americans, not those rabble-rousers who sit safely in the states and preach race hatred. They are more of an enemy to freedom-loving soldiers than the Germans. They are enjoying the fruits of democracy and at the same time advocating the same principles that democratic nations are fighting."

"Certainly, there are some of Japanese descent that are unfaithful to the U. S., but the same can be said of Italians and Germans. Yet you hear no one advocating sending the descendants of these countries back to Europe."

"I hope these so-called patriots are a small minority. Otherwise a lot of good American blood is being wasted."

### Segregation Program Completed at Hunt As Families Leave

HUNT, Idaho — Twenty seven families, totaling 80 persons, left the Minidoka relocation center last week for the Tule Lake segregation camp in northern California.

H. L. Stafford, project director at Minidoka, said that in each family there is at least one person who was denied leave clearance by the War Relocation Authority.

Stafford said minor children are obliged to obey their parents' wishes but children 17 years of age or older are permitted to decide for themselves whether or not to go to Tule Lake.

In most cases the leave clearances were denied because of application for repatriation or expatriation to Japan.

then only if it is absolutely necessary. Somehow we felt guilty when we thought of all those servicemen and their anxiety in making the most of their furloughs. The servicemen in our coach had come all the way from a camp in Texas. Many were in anticipation of seeing their families for the first time in almost a year. And they told us about the run between St. Louis and Chicago wherein there were about 150 men in one coach, making use of every available space, including the aisles, between the seats and even sleeping on the baggage racks above the chairs.

But in another sense, we feel that the trip was worthwhile. It tended to make us appreciate more fully the exigencies of the war.

## Ann Nisei's Column

### Try Some Exercises, Eat Moderately

If, as we suggested last week, you're started on a regular program for beauty, you'll want to know, first of all, what you can do for your figure.

As we said, however, don't worry about an extra inch or two, which can be camouflaged by correct dress. If you're only a few pounds overweight, you can lose this by cutting out sweets and extra carbohydrates in your diet and by exercise. You don't have to go on a drastic diet, which might be harmful. Instead, try some exercises and eat moderately.

If you're keeping a beauty scrapbook, clip the exercises you need and do them faithfully every night.

If you're quite small through the bust, your waistline should measure about 8 inches smaller. In other words, if your bust measurement is 32, your waist should measure 24. According to the present "ideal" measurements, a 10 inch difference is best, but leave that for the bigger gals, who can attain those Varga girl proportions. Your hip measure should equal or be up to two inches larger than your bust measurement. At three inches more you'll get by, but at four, start exercising.

Your stomach, of course, should be nice and flat and pulled well in. Your posture should be good. Walk and stand tall, stomach in, head high. Practice walking around your room, with or without a book on your head. Walk easily and slowly. Don't mince, but don't throw your weight around either.

Here are exercises for your waistline, abdomen and hips:

**Waistline:** Exercise one: Stand with feet apart. Raise right arm high. Bend for over to the left, arm following overhead. Stretch so you can feel the pull from your leg, through body. Return to position, raise left arm and bend to right.

**Exercise two:** Sit on floor with legs apart and knees straight. Stretch arms overhead. Drop left arm along left leg, right arm kept back of ear and stretching up. Reverse, so that right arm reaches along right leg with left arm up.

**Hipline:** Exercise one: Lie on right side, arm straight up stretched out under head, left hand on floor in front to support you. Kick legs back and forth rapidly from the hips, without bending knees. Repeat lying on left side. Do this about a minute the first day, then gradually increase till you can do it about 50 times each side.

**Exercise two:** Lie on right side, arm straight out under head, left hand on mat in front for support. Pedal legs vigorously fifty times. Repeat, lying on left side.

**Abdomen:** Lie flat on back, arms at side. Raise right leg straight up. Lower right leg, raising left leg at same time. Continue at quick pace. Keep spine flat to floor.

**Exercise two:** Lie on back, keeping spine flat to floor. Bring knees to chest. Keep shoulders flat. Stretch legs out to right. Bring knees back to chest, stretch legs to right.

**Legs:** Do pedalling exercises, e.g.: lying flat on floor, raise lower part of body, supporting yourself on your arms, then pedal vigorously.

All these exercises must be done faithfully and regularly. Don't do them so vigorously that they leave you short of breath. It's more important to do them rhythmically. Do them to music, if you like. Just be sure that you stretch fully so that you can feel your whole body pulling.

If you're twenty pounds or so overweight, it's best to combine exercise with a mild dieting regime. Don't be drastic about this, but do cut out rich desserts like cake, pie and pastry. Cut down on bread, butter and potatoes. Concentrate on salads, vegetables, lean meats like lamb and beef. Take your coffee black, or drink tea.

If you're extremely overweight, go to your doctor for a reducing diet, but never, never undertake a strenuous diet on your own. The reducing diet fads are over, thank heaven, and we're too sensible, I hope, to resort to them again.



# Hawaii's Japanese Americans Winning Reputation as One of Finest Units, Soldiers Declare

## Vital Statistics

### BIRTHS

To Mr. and Mrs. Nobuichi Masa-ki (16-6-C, Jerome), a girl on April 7.  
To Mr. and Mrs. Henry Takashi Nishioka (43-12-E, Jerome), a girl on April 15.  
To Mr. and Mrs. Tsuneji Michael Kodani (15-9-D, Poston), a girl on April 20.  
To Mr. and Mrs. Hideo Uye-shima (37-11-A, Poston), a girl on April 21.  
To Mrs. Haru Sugishita (4-3-F, Topaz), a girl on April 23.  
To Mr. and Mrs. George Hoshide (27-8-E, Topaz), a girl on April 24.  
To Mr. and Mrs. Toshiro Morita (11F-7B, Granada), a girl on April 24.  
To Mr. and Mrs. Syo Okumura (318-3-B, Poston), a girl on April 24.  
To Mr. and Mrs. Ikeda (15-5-C, Rohwer), a girl on April 24.  
To Mr. and Mrs. Kozo Fujimura (36-10-C, Poston), a boy on April 24.  
To Mr. and Mrs. Mataichi Morikawa (308-6-B, Poston), a girl on April 25.  
To Mr. and Mrs. Isamu Nakamura (30-11-D, Jerome), a boy on April 26.  
To Mr. and Mrs. Fred Utaka Tani (6-11-D, Jerome), a boy on April 27.  
To Mr. and Mrs. George Akahoshi (7K-5B, Granada), a boy on April 27.  
To Mr. and Mrs. George Iwanaga (12E-12E, Granada), a boy on April 29.  
To Mr. and Mrs. Jack Kawamoto (22-4-B, Mt. Mountain), a girl on May 1.  
To Mr. and Mrs. Niro Abe (9-12-A, Mt. Mountain), a boy on May 3.  
To Mr. and Mrs. Takizo Ogawa (22-22-B, Mt. Mountain), a girl on May 4.  
To Mr. and Mrs. Keichi Nakamura (36-2-5, Manzanar), a boy.  
To Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Yamamoto (21-8-5, Manzanar), a boy.  
To Mr. and Mrs. Benji Sano (33-11-3, Manzanar), a girl.  
To Mr. and Mrs. Hiroshi Uchiyama (33-12-2, Manzanar), a boy.  
To Mr. and Mrs. Morikichi Matsumoto (18-6-1, Manzanar), a boy.  
To Mr. and Mrs. Hiroshi Norikawa (27-3-3, Manzanar), a girl.  
To Rev. and Mrs. Kanmo Imamura (56-3-A, Rivers), a boy on April 28.  
To Mr. and Mrs. Hideo Howard Watanabe (51-1-A, Rivers), a boy on April 29.  
To Mr. and Mrs. Yoshioka (15-7-C, Rohwer), a girl on April 29.  
To Mr. and Mrs. Mack Masanobu Tabata (72-14-A, Rivers), a girl on April 19.  
To Mr. and Mrs. Ben Abe (16-6-D, Rivers), a boy on April 19.  
To Mr. and Mrs. Masao Nakamura (34-7-C, Rivers), a boy on April 20.  
To Rev. and Mrs. John Yamazaki (32-5-B, Rivers), a boy on April 20.

### DEATHS

Kunihei Tamaribuchi (1-11-1, Manzanar), on April 11.  
Infant son of Mr. and Mrs. James Masamitsu (14-5-A, Jerome), on April 18.  
Komasuke Nabeta, 50 (25-24-B, Mt. Mountain), on April 20.  
Kubei Nakamoto, 59 (34-6-A, Rohwer), on April 22.  
Kuntaro Nakamura, 57 (39-12-A, Rohwer), on April 23.  
Akiyoshi Shigei, 34 (39-9-B, Jerome), on April 23.  
Goichiro Maeda, 68 (6H-3D, Granada), on April 28.  
Taiji Hiraoka (5-10-5, Manzanar), on April 29.

### MARRIAGES

Shizuko Lillie Nakamura to Masano Yonemura on April 8 at Jerome.  
May Teruko Asaki to Paul Itsuo Ishimoto on April 12 at Jerome.  
Clara Tsuchiyama to George Obayashi on April 22 at Poston.  
Mitsuko Fukumitsu to John Yamamoto at Billings on May 2.  
Masako Odow to Karl Taku on May 3 in Salt Lake City.  
Chiyomi Harumoto to Kuzuo Ogawa at Manzanar.  
Michiko Konishi to Nori Takeu-

## Two Wounded Veterans Get Furloughs at Homes in Hawaii

HONOLULU — Two wounded veterans of the 100th Infantry Battalion, Pfc. Charles D. Takenaka, and James G. Funakoshi, both wearers of the Purple Heart, came home to Honolulu last month on 21-day furloughs, the Honolulu Star-Bulletin reported here recently.

The two young veterans said that Hawaii's Americans of Japanese ancestry are winning the reputation of being one of the finest units in the European theater of war. They were anxious to talk about the record and exploits of the 100th but were reluctant to discuss their own parts in the fighting, the Star-Bulletin said.

Private Funakoshi was in the first assault wave at the bloody Salerno beachhead, and Private Takenaka in the third. They were under heavy aerial attack during the initial landing, they said, and met heavy opposition on the beach. "The Germans moved back, fighting a delaying action," Private Takenaka said, "and we pushed right in behind them, dodging mortar shells all the way."

Funakoshi was wounded during this advance. "A German .88 shell hit nearby, and I hit a ditch beside the road. Then we were ordered to advance. Just as I got up, a second .88 burst. This one put me out of action," he said. He was hit in the neck and chest by shell fragments.

Private Takenaka suffered three back wounds in a later engagement.

"German machine gun fire is not too accurate," Private Funakoshi said, "but their mortars and artillery make you nervous, to put it mildly."

"German propaganda must have taken a beating, along with the Nazis themselves, when we went into action," Private Takenaka declared. "The Germans prisoners couldn't figure it out. They had been told the Japanese were their allies."

"They were told we weren't Japanese, but Americans. This confused them still more. About the only thing they were certain of was that they had met some tough people and had been knocked out."

The German soldiers, according to Takenaka, are tough, well, disciplined, and know their jobs. "But we are better men," he said.

chi at Manzanar.

Setsuko Nishi to Masaaki Uchida at Manzanar.

Fujiko Nakao to Bob Matsumoto at Manzanar.

Akiko Wakita to Masao Fujii on April 26 at Gila River.

Kaoru Frances Yasui to Shiegeki Kato on April 19 at Gila River.

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OGDEN

## Manzanar Hog Project Ires L. A. Officials

LOS ANGELES—The Municipal Department of Water and Power is protesting against the War Relocation Authority setting up a ranch for 1000 hogs in connection with federal care of the 6000 evacuees at the Manzanar relocation center in Owens Valley, it was reported last week.

It was reported that the city was "apprehensive over possibly pollution" of its water supply.

The Board of Water and Power Commissioners has directed Commissioner Robert A. Heffner and H. A. Van Norman, department manager, to go to Owens Valley to look into the situation.

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## New York Clubwomen Protest Hostel

NEW YORK — Two emergency resolutions, one protesting the government's seizure of Montgomery Ward, and the other protesting the "contemplated resettlement of 2,000 Pacific coast Japanese and Japanese Americans at 168 Clinton street, Brooklyn," were adopted at the 124th convention of the New York City Federation of Women's Clubs at the Hotel Astor.

## Two Arizona Nisei Inducted into Army

GLENDAL, Ariz. — Lloyd Seki, plant foreman of the nisei-operated Showa Shoyu Brewing company, was inducted into the army last week at the reception center in Phoenix.

Yasuo Asano, another former employee of the company, was also inducted.

Seki left the Poston relocation center in March, 1943, and worked himself up to plant manager of the firm in ten months.

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## Rohwer Group To Aid Farms In Illinois

CHICAGO — The largest group of seasonal workers ever recruited in the North Central Area arrived in Naperville, Ill., this week. There were 50 men included in the group, which was recruited at Rohwer Relocation Center. They will cut asparagus for a period of two months on large farms near Naperville. Transportation was provided by the War Food Administration which, with the Farm Extension Service and War Relocation Authority, made all the arrangements for this job.

Board and room will be provided by the employers, and blankets, silverware, and other living necessities have been provided by a fourth Government agency. While the asparagus job will last only two months, there is a good likelihood that these seasonal workers can still remain for a still longer period in Naperville as there will be work de-tasseling corn at about the time their present job ends.

Naperville has proved itself to be a warm and friendly community for more permanent resettlement also as more than 40 former residents of various relocation centers are now employed there on year around jobs.

There is a considerable shortage of help for various seasonal farm jobs in this community, and it is expected that requests will be received for other groups of seasonal workers in the near future. Something of the importance to the nation's war food program of this particular seasonal farm job is indicated by the fact that the War Department has cooperated with the other agencies involved in making some of the arrangements for the group of workers.

## Karl Taku Weds Masako Odow In Salt Lake

Simple wedding rites held May 3 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Kanichi Odow united their daughter, Masako, and Mr. Karl Taku of Spanish Fork, Utah.

Mr. Taku was formerly president of the San Luis Obispo Japanese American Citizens League.

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## Frank Tashima Elected President Of National YBA

OGDEN, Utah — Frank Tashima of Salt Lake was recently elected president of the National YBA for the year 1944, according to Hannah Tanimine, newly-elected secretary.

Other officers are Yukio Isaki, vice president, and John Nakano, treasurer.

## New YBA Group Formed in Chicago

CHICAGO—A new YBA organization has been set up in Chicago, it was announced last week, with Barry Saiki, former editor of the Rohwer Outpost, as chairman.

Organizational work in the Chicago area was under the direction of Mike Maruyama of Topaz.

Other officers of the new Chicago YBA are Marion Nakatsuma from Jerome, vice chairman; Sueko Masuda, Heart Mountain, recording secretary; Tatsuko Fukushima, Gila, corresponding secretary; Shiz Nakashita, Rohwer, treasurer; and Rev. Gyodo Kono, Jerome, adviser.

## Poston Survey Shows Residents Will Remain

POSTON, Ariz.—Only 697 persons of 3000 quizzed in a recent Poston survey stated they plan to relocate, while 2229 persons expressed their intention of remaining in the center. Seventy-four persons were undecided.

Over one-half of the persons, 1761, expressed the desire to return to California, provided the army or government furnishes sufficient security and protection.

The survey was taken by the community council to test the evacuees' response to relocation.

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## Lieut. Hirota Transferred to Colorado Camp

DENVER, Colo.—First Lieut. Carl Hirota stopped over in Denver last week en route to Colorado Springs where he will be stationed at the 129th Evacuation Hospital at Camp Carson. He was formerly assigned with the 442nd Combat Team at Camp Shelby, Miss.

Since his enlistment as a dentist early in 1943, Lieut. Hirota has been at a number of army training bases in the United States. He is high in his praise of the friendliness and cooperation of the men he has encountered in the armed forces.

It was also reported here that seven other Japanese American dentists, all first lieutenants in the U. S. Army, have been transferred from Camp Shelby to new army posts. They are First Lieuts. Tom Takahashi and Ed Nakata, Fort Jackson, S. C.; Harry Matsuyama and Leo Saito, Camp Rucker, Ala.; Arthur Takii, Camp Forrest, Tenn.; Harry Takaki and Masato Okuda, Camp Breckenridge, Ky. First Lieuts. Yoshizo Harada, George Tsukasaki and Arikawa have been assigned to the Evacuation hospital at Camp Shelby, Miss.

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## Purple Heart Medal Received by Widow

POSTON, Ariz.—The Order of the Purple Heart, awarded posthumously to Sgt. James Shiramizu, formerly of Salinas, Calif., was received by his widow, Mrs. Ruth Shiramizu of Poston, last week.

Sgt. Shiramizu is the first California nisei to be killed in action with the 100th Infantry Battalion in the Italian campaign. The war Department has reported that he died in action on Jan. 14.

## Five Rohwer Nisei Called to Army

ROHWER, Ark. — Marking the first group of reserves at Rohwer center to go into active service, five local youths were called recently for army service and reported to Jefferson Barracks, Mo., and Camp Robinson in Arkansas, according to the Outpost.

George Kagawa and Willie Tsukasaki reported at Jefferson Barracks, while Johnny Tsunao Murakawa, Shiro Nagaoka and Ryoki Tamura joined the forces at Camp Robinson.

## Gila Draftees Send Petition To President

RIVERS, Ariz. — A petition which asks an early return of constitutional guarantees for Americans of Japanese ancestry has been signed by 620 loyal Japanese Americans at Gila River who face imminent induction into the armed forces, the News Courier reported last week.

The petition has been forwarded to President Roosevelt.

The petitioners ask for equality of opportunity for Japanese Americans in all branches of service and for an early restitution of constitutional privileges denied as a result of the evacuation.

## Masuda Elected Mayor of Poston

POSTON, Ariz.—Thomas Masuda, former Seattle attorney, was unanimously elected chairman of the Poston Community Council, with the title of Mayor, at the initial meeting of the newly elected council recently.

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