

## Presidential Citation Awarded to Nisei Unit

### Lost Battalion's Survivors Present Silver Plaque to Japanese American Rescuers

**Nisei Fighting Men Engaged in Bayonet Charge Against Superior Enemy Forces Entrenched on Hill During Rescue of Texas Division's Unit**

WITH THE SIXTH ARMY GROUP, FRANCE—In an unprecedented gesture of appreciation and goodwill, the surviving members of the Lost Battalion presented a silver plaque to the 442nd Infantry Regiment, their rescuers.

Significantly enough, the triangular trophy-award was received by Colonel C. W. Pence, commanding officer of the Infantry Regiment and the Combat Team, of Attica, Indiana, on the first of February, the second anniversary of the activation of the now famous Japanese American organization in Camp Shelby, Mississippi.

The plaque shows the "Remember the Alamo" regimental insignia of the 141st Infantry Regiment, of which the once Lost Battalion is a member, the "T" inscribed on an Indian arrowhead insignia of the 36th "Texas" Division to which both the rescued and the rescuing units were attached at the time of the much-publicized relief, and the "Go for Broke" regimental insignia of the 442nd Infantry Regiment, the recipients of the trophy, above the following engraving:

TO THE 442ND INFANTRY REGIMENT:

With Deep Sincerity and Utmost Appreciation for the gallant fight to effect our rescue after we had been isolated for seven days.

1st Battalion, 141st Infantry Regiment  
Biffontaine, France  
From the 24th to the 30th of October, 1944

The now famous rescue of the Lost Battalion took place in the rugged, heavily-forested Vosages Mountains in Northeastern France. The Battalion became "lost" when they were isolated by the German enemy as they paced the forward advance of their infantry regiment. For a period of a week, they were confined to a circular area roughly three hundred yards in diameter. What food and ammunition they received had to be fired to them in artillery shells in the manner of propaganda leaflets and dropped by Allied airplanes. Their only source of water was a scum-covered pool that was guarded by a machine gun.

To effect the rescue, the Japanese American infantrymen had to engage in a bayonet charge against superior enemy forces entrenched on top of a hill, knock out German Tiger tanks that challenged their slow advance through the dim forests, kill enemy soldiers dressed in American uniforms, disregard radio directions sent by the enemy to mislead them, and to work their way through two and a half miles of terrain intricately and intensively mined and booby-trapped where the Wehrmacht waited behind roadblocks and other defenses to stop their relentless drive to save the entrapped Americans.

The commanding general of the 36th Division described the ground covered by the Japanese Americans as among the "most difficult terrain in the world." Of their epic action, he said: "No finer fighting, no finer soldierly qualities have ever been witnessed by the United States Army in its long history."

In acknowledging the receipt of the plaque, Colonel Pence wrote the commanding officer of the once Lost Battalion, in part:

"I have yet to experience such a gesture of heartfelt appreciation and admiration as this. We shall treasure this award as a symbol of the 'Esprit de Corps' that is so characteristic of the American soldier, and as a remembrance of those who so gallantly gave their lives in a com-

mon cause to the end that another milestone would be reached towards the triumphal defeat of a ruthless and treacherous enemy."

It is planned to have the plaque photographed and a print distributed to every officer and man in the infantry regiment.

### No Evidence Found Of Incendiarism in Morishige Fire

SELMA, Calif. — No evidence has been found that the fire which destroyed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert T. Morishige at the corner of Second and Wilson Streets on Feb. 16 was of incendiary origin, the Selma Enterprise reported last week.

The possibility of incendiarism has not been dismissed by various law enforcement agencies, however, the report added, and the investigation has not been concluded.

The fire has been investigated by Chief of Police O. L. Richardson, District Attorney James Thuesen, and by representatives of the WRA, the Army and the Board of Fire Underwriters. The insurance investigator reported that the fire appears to have started in the roof since the floor joists do not indicate that the blaze started on the floor or under the house.

## War Department Identifies One Killed, Seven Wounded

The War Department this week identified the following Japanese Americans as casualties in the European area:

(In all these cases next of kin have previously been notified and have been kept informed directly by the War Department of any change in status. In case of divergence between this list and information sent to the next of kin, the last War Department telegram or letter to the next of kin is always the appropriate final authority on the status of a soldier. Because of the time necessary to compile these lists, information is listed several weeks after next of kin have been notified. Some of the casualties listed have previously been reported in the Pacific Citizen through information from the next of kin or relocation centers.)

### Killed in Action

TOKUSHIMA, Sgt. Harry H.—John T. Tokushima, father, WRA camp, Amache, Colo.

### Wounded in Action

YASUTAKE, Pfc. Hidemaru—Mrs. Yaye Yasutake, 11F-2E, Amache, Colo.

KARATSU, Sgt. James S. — John U. Karatsu, father, Amache, Colo.

KAWAMOTO, Pvt. Mitsuo — Saburo Kawamoto, father, Amache, Colo.

YAMAKI, Tech. Sgt. Joe T.—Ray Yamaki, father, Rt. 1, Clearfield, Utah.

SAKO, Pvt. Sam E.—William N. Sako, brother, Heart Mountain, Wyo.

TAKAMOTO, Cpl. Yoneo—Mrs. Oriyo Takamoto, mother, Heart Mountain, Wyo.

OSHITA, Pvt. Mitsuye—Mrs. Kasumi Oshita, mother, Amache, Colo.

### Prisoners of War in Germany

KONDO, Pfc. Francis N. — Noboru Kondo, father, 8153 Northwest 6th Ave., Miami, Florida.

KANNO, Pvt. Tom T.—Mrs. T. Shimada, sister, Rt. 1, Layton, Utah.

AKITA, Pfc. Stanley M.—Mrs. Yoshio Akita, mother, Box 37, Honouliuli, T. H.

HIROKANE, Pfc. Katsumi—Mitsuo Hirokane, brother, Maui, T. H.

### Nazi Brutality Against Nisei Prisoner Revealed

NEW YORK—An incident of Nazi brutality against an American war prisoner of Japanese ancestry was related by one of five American Army officers who escaped from a German prison camp in Western Poland and made their way to Moscow, according to a copy-righted dispatch on Feb. 24 by Ralph Parker, Moscow correspondent of the New York newspaper, PM.

Second Lieut. Alvin G. McCormick, 23, of Livonia, N. Y., related the following incident as an illustration of German treatment of war prisoners, according to Parker:

"He saw a Nazi strike an American enlisted man of Japanese ancestry in the face with the back of his hand when the prisoner refused to answer questions."

## Two Killed, One Wounded In Europe

Two Japanese Americans were killed and one wounded in recent fighting on the Western Front, according to information received last week by next of kin of casualties.

### Killed in Action

PVT. MAKOTO YOSHIMURA, 24, son of Mr. and Mrs. Shuji Yoshihara of 47-2-B, Gila River, Ariz., killed in action in Germany on Dec. 22, previously reported missing in action.

PFC. JOHN Y. TANAKA, Denver, reported killed in action in France on Jan. 20.

### Wounded in Action

PVT. SHIGEHICO ISHIGAKI, 23, (Colusa, Calif.), son of Mrs. Shin Ishigaki, 9E-11C, Amache, Colo., wounded in action in France in February, 1945. Pvt. Ishigaki volunteered for active duty from the Granada center in 1943.

## Japanese Americans Smashed Main Line of Resistance of Germans in Alsace Sector

**Task Force from Japanese American Unit Reported as Routing Three Nazi Battalions; Fifty-Six Germans Taken Prisoner in Action**

The awarding of a Presidential Distinguished Unit citation to units of the 442nd Japanese American Combat Team was revealed in a press dispatch, passed by the field press censor of SHAEF (Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Forces), and received this week by the Pacific Citizen.

The awarding of the Distinguished Unit Citation to the Japanese American group was disclosed in a routine dispatch which reported that First Lieutenant Edward J. Nilges, Fairview Village, Ohio, had been promoted to the rank of Captain with the 442nd.

The article declared that "it was during the Alsace campaign that Captain, then Lieutenant, Nilges acted as the plans and operations officer for the Japanese American Task Force which received a Presidential Citation as a Distinguished Unit for smashing the German main line of resistance in that sector."

(This report is the second on the awarding of a Presidential Distinguished Unit citation to a Japanese American unit of the U. S. Army. The 100th Infantry Battalion, now incorporated as part of the 442nd Japanese American Combat Team, was awarded a Presidential Citation for action near Sasseta, Italy, in June, 1944.)

Activities of a Japanese American task force on the southern sector of the Western Front in breaking a two-day stalemate along the main line of German resistance in the Vosges mountains was reported in a Washington dispatch of the United Press in January. (This dispatch, datelined Washington, apparently was not carried by any newspaper in the continental United States, but was published in Hawaii.)

This United Press report told of the action of units of the Japanese American Combat Team in routing out at least three battalions of the enemy and paving the way for the liberation of two strategic lines.

"The mission of the task force," the United Press stated, "was to encircle German defensive positions while driving toward villages straddling the main German escape routes out of the valley. Enemy resistance was fierce because the Wehrmacht was securely entrenched along a railroad track and the forward slope of a commanding ridge. The team did not know where the Germans might be or in what numbers. They had only a slight idea of their position and knew that there were about three battalions in that sector."

"Somehow the group managed to pass the German sentries and the outer patrols without being seen or heard."

The U. P. report quoted Pfc. Minato Masunaga, a member of the task force:

"We couldn't see a foot ahead of us. It was cold and wet, with fog or something making it extra tough."

"We didn't know what it was all about, but we knew it was something big, so we were all keyed up," another member of the force added. "We knew we were in the Jerry lines and we moved along like Indians. We couldn't make any noise or take a false step. We were lucky, though, 'cause we passed some mighty bad spots without Jerry even guessing that we were passing through."

The Germans were caught off balance by the attacking battalions, which drove east by north, catching the enemy in a death vise. German infantrymen fled into houses, into the brush and into the forest. When they hid in a house, mortar-men smoked

them out. When they hid in barns or tried to escape through the brush and trees, machine gunners and Browning automatic riflemen opened fire.

Once the Germans recovered from the surprise attack, they bombarded the charging Japanese Americans with their artillery, mortars and self-propelled guns from their position farther up the sloping ridge. The task force continued to drive against them with dogged determination, the United Press declared.

The operations of the Japanese American task force were summarized in the routing of at least three German battalions out of their secured positions and the attack opened the way to two important towns. The Japanese Americans killed 80 Germans by small-arms fire, with 200 to 350 more dead Jerries who were probably killed by artillery fire. Fifty-six Germans were taken prisoner.

The U. P. report stated that the Japanese American task force suffered only three casualties, two of which were only slightly wounded.

## Four to Face Trial in Doi Ranch Attack

**Watson, Johnson Brothers Charged With Arson at Hearing**

AUBURN, Calif. — Four men who assertedly decided to run a Japanese American family out of Placer county after a night-club drinking party were held in Superior Court on Feb. 22 on charges of attempting to burn and dynamite the home of Sumio Doi.

Bail was set at \$5000 each for James E. Watson, 38, Claude P. Watson, 35, Pvt. Elmer Johnson, 20, and Pvt. Alvin Johnson, 18. The Johnson brothers are AWOL from the army. All were charged with attempting to burn Doi's packing house on Jan. 18. The Watson brothers also were charged with attempting to dynamite the building.

Agnes Butler, who said she attended a party with two other women and the four men, testified the accused men made three attempts to burn the packing shed. Watson suggested that running the Japanese Americans out of the country would be a good idea, she added. The asserted suggestion was made on their way home from a night club, Miss Butler testified.

The Watsons are at liberty on bail. The Johnson brothers are in jail in lieu of bail.

## Japanese Americans Eligible to Regain Firearms, Is Ruling

Americans of Japanese ancestry may apply for the release of firearms, cameras and radios which were turned in at the outset of the war, U. S. District Attorney Dan B. Shields announced last week in Salt Lake City.



## Shots Fired Into Evacuee's Farm Home Near Lancaster

None Hurt in Latest Instance of Violence Against Nisei on Coast

LOS ANGELES — Six rifle shells, purportedly bearing Army markings, were found on Feb. 26 near the house of John Shiokari, 22, 14 miles north of Lancaster, where shots were fired into his home and pump house on the night of Feb. 23, according to his report to the sheriff's office, the Times reported.

"This is my home and somebody is trying to shoot me out of it and I can't understand it," said Shiokari, who reported on March 2 for his draft physical examination. He said he was in the bedroom when he heard six shots fired.

Shiokari, who operates an alfalfa ranch, was evacuated in May, 1942, to the Poston relocation center, then attended the University of Nebraska. He returned to his ranch on Feb. 15. His step-father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kobayashi, were due to return to the ranch this week.

The district in which Shiokari lives formerly had many ranches operated by persons of Japanese ancestry, but only one other has returned.

## Visalia Farm Home Target Of Gun Attack

Farm Building Also Reported Burned in San Joaquin Valley

VISALIA, Calif.—Sheriff S. B. Sherman reported on Feb. 27 three rifle shots were fired on the night of Feb. 26 into a house occupied by a returned Japanese American evacuee, Sam Uyeno, and ten members of his family on a farm near Visalia.

None of the Uyenos were hurt. Sheriff Sherman reported finding no clues to the identity of the attackers.

It was also reported that a small unoccupied building owned by Frank Sakaguchi, an evacuee now at the Poston, Ariz., relocation center, was burned down.

## Seabrook Evacuees Take Part in Program for USO

BRIDGETON, N. J.—Relocates at Seabrook farms in New Jersey contributed their talents in the celebration of the fourth anniversary of the USO here recently (Feb. 4). The variety program, emceed by Sam Seno, was witnessed by a packed crowd at the dormitory auditorium.

Outstanding numbers included a duet by Bill Wakatsuki and Misa Izumi; classical solos by an Issei, Jishiro Miyachi, and piano solos by Haruko Yoshimoto.

Commendable vocalizing was also done by Hideo Kawamura, Tom Sugimoto, and the high school trio composed of Esther Matsumoto, Kay Tokeshi and Misa Izumi. A reading was given by Mrs. Sada Murayama.

In charge of the affair were Marie Newell and Mrs. Annice D. Locke, USO directors at the Federal Housing project at Seabrook.

## Wyoming Coeds Annul Action Against Japanese Americans

LARAMIE, Wyo.—The Varsity Villagers, an organization of University of Wyoming women who live in the town of Laramie, has voted to annul action suggesting unofficially the resignation of two officers of the organization who are of Japanese ancestry.

President Margaret Eaton, who tendered her resignation in protest, against the discrimination shown toward the two Nisei student officers, resumed office at the request of the group, the Branding Iron, campus newspaper, reported on Feb. 16.

After the organization's membership recently voted to ask the group's secretary and treasurer,

## Japanese American Directs Michigan Courses for Army

ANN ARBOR, Mich. — The first official announcement that the University of Michigan has been an Army center for Japanese language instruction for the past two years was made on Feb. 13 by Army Intelligence officers.

Dr. Joseph Yamagiwa, an American of Japanese ancestry and assistant professor of Japanese at the university, is directing the courses now in progress.

## Myer Predicts Race-Baiting Will Subside

WRA Director Tells Of Combat Record Of Japanese Americans

LOS ANGELES—"Hundreds of Japanese Americans are in the South Pacific, acting chiefly as interpreters, while thousands are on the European fighting fronts," Dillon S. Myer, national director of the WRA declared in Los Angeles on Feb. 27.

Mr. Myer predicted that anti-racial feeling against Americans of Japanese ancestry will subside when the nation learns of the war record of more than 13,000 Japanese Americans in the armed services.

Myer declared that not a single case of physical violence has accompanied the resettlement of 500 Japanese Americans on the Pacific coast.

All evacuees are expected to be back in private life by the end of the year, Myer stated.

## HAWAIIAN LEGION WILL WELCOME NISEI VETERANS

HONOLULU, T. H.—"I think I can say that all American Legion posts in Hawaii will be very happy to admit into membership returning American soldiers of Japanese ancestry," L. O. Gates, adjutant of the Hawaiian department of the Legion, declared on Jan. 30, according to the Star-Bulletin.

While not able to speak officially for the Legion, Mr. Gates said that most of the posts in Hawaii have already gone on record as saying they will be glad to welcome into membership such returning veterans.

## Two Convicted for Draft Violation

BOISE, Idaho—George Katsumi Kodama of Seattle and Tatsuo George Fujinaka of Portland were convicted last week in U. S. District Court of failure to report for military induction, and were sentenced by Judge Chase A. Clark to serve two years and two months in prison and pay fines of \$300.

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## Issei Mother in Relocation Camp Receives DSC Won by Son Killed in Action in Italy

Gen. Wilson Presents Posthumous Award to Mrs. Hatsu Madokoro

POSTON, Ariz.—In an impressive ceremony at the Colorado River relocation center on Feb. 21, Mrs. Matsu H. Madokoro, mother of Pfc. Harry Madokoro who was killed in action in Italy, received the Distinguished Service Cross awarded her son posthumously by Lieut. Gen. Mark Clark, commanding Allied forces in Italy.

The presentation was made by Brig. Gen. John H. Wilson, chief of staff of the Ninth Service Command, who flew to Poston for the ceremony from Camp Haan, Calif.

Pfc. Madokoro, a member of the project police department while at Poston, volunteered from the center in 1943. He died on August 25, 1944, of wounds received in battle in Italy.

The presentation took place in Poston's Cottonwood Bowl where the Boy Scout color guard presented colors and led the flag salute. The 30-piece high school orchestra from Poston's Unit I played the national anthem.

Among those in the audience was Mrs. Nase Toyota, mother of four sons in the Army, one of whom, Pfc. Shichizo Toyota, was killed in Italy last July. With her was her son, Tech. Sgt. Kameo Toyota, who was wounded in France last October and December. Mrs. Toyota was greeted by Gen. Wilson after the ceremony.

The posthumous award to Pfc. Madokoro was made "for extraordinary heroism in action on July 7, 1944, near Molina A Ventoabbao, Italy, and on July 16 and 17, 1944, at Luciana, Italy," according to the citation read by Gen. Wilson.

During the final assault on an enemy-held field near Molina, Pfc.

Madokoro advanced ahead of his squad to a strategic position from which he could deliver effective automatic rifle fire. He scanned his sector of the slope for a target and levelled his automatic rifle on a nest of snipers, forcing them to disperse.

Throughout the bitter fight that followed, he tenaciously held his position, neutralizing an enemy nest and pinning down the enemy to enable his platoon to take the hill.

Again, at Luciana, Madokoro occupied an advance position and proceeded to fire on the enemy entrenched on the outskirts of the town. With heavy fire directed at him, he stubbornly held his position and provided covering fire when his squad was forced to withdraw because of concentrated artillery and mortar barrage.

The following day when his squad became separated from the remainder of the company within the town, Madokoro provided flank protection against enemy attacks. Enemy soldiers entered a nearby draw and threw hand grenades at him but Madokoro crawled toward the draw and tossed a hand grenade into the enemy position, neutralizing it.

On another occasion he left his position and silenced a machine pistol position with a grenade. Still later in the course of the battle, he approached an enemy machine gun nest and silenced it.

"By his stubborn determination, conspicuous devotion to duty and courage, Pfc. Madokoro inspired his squad in preventing the enemy's escape while his company closed in to occupy the town," the citation added.

Harry Madokoro lived at 118 Union street, Watsonville, Calif., prior to evacuation to the WRA center at Poston. His father is deceased.

## Granada Mother Learns Son Won Citation in Philippines

AMACHE, Colo.—An evacuee mother, Mrs. Hango Uratsu, was notified by letter last week by Brig. Gen. Hanford MacNider that he had given approval for the awarding of a Bronze Star for "gallantry in action" to her son, Master Sgt. Masaji Uratsu.

The Uratsus were residents of Loomis in Placer county, California, before evacuation. With her husband and another son, Tom, Mrs. Uratsu returned to their home in Placer county this week.

(Gen. MacNider has been reported in recent news dispatches as commanding a unit of the U.S. Army on Luzon in the Philippines.)

In his letter to Mrs. Uratsu Gen. MacNider declared:

"Your son is a first class fighting man and a credit to his organization and to the Army. You can be very proud of him as are all of us who are associated with him in this command."

(Before being recalled to active service in the Army, Gen. MacNider was a national commander of the American Legion. His name was among those offered in nomination as Republican candidate for President of the United States at the Philadelphia convention in 1940.)

## Minidoka Resident Will Be Tried on Assault Charge

JEROME, Idaho — Guntei Emoto, 45, an alien evacuee resident of the Minidoka relocation center, was charged on Feb. 24 with assault with a deadly weapon in connection with wounds suffered by a fellow evacuee, Toshio Matsu-mura, in a fight at the WRA camp.

Emoto was arraigned and bound over to district court.

## Soldier in Europe Condemns Actions of Anti-Evacuee Group

PUYALLUP, Wash. — "I hope the Remember Pearl Harbor League flops hard," a GI on the Western Front recently wrote his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Allen, commenting on reports of agitation against the return of persons of Japanese ancestry to the Puyallup Valley.

The letter, from Marshall Allen, was reprinted by the Puyallup Valley Tribune on Feb. 22.

Noting that the Remember Pearl Harbor League had been incorporated "to restrain the return of Japanese" to the Puyallup area, soldier Allen declared:

"Do you remember the long runs I used to make on the football field for Puyallup? I remember them and I haven't forgotten the Japanese fellow who opened the hole in the line for me to go through, I liked him and so did everyone in the stands in 1932, 1933, and 1934. Where is he now? Do you or anyone who liked him then know?"

"In Germany a battalion of white-faced Americans were com-

pletely cut off from our lines by the Germans. They suffered from lack of food and medical supplies until they were saved by another battalion of yellow-faced Americans who gave them food and whose yellow-faced American medics (like me) gave them first aid and the medical supplies they needed so badly. If this lost battalion had been sons and husbands of people in the (Puyallup) valley wouldn't those soldiers been ashamed to receive that help from these Japanese and then had to say I lived in the Puyallup Valley before the war, knowing that their families might be members of the 'Pearl Harbor League'."

"I believe that Germans, Italians and Japs that are born and educated in America are Americans first last and always. In case you can't guess what I am getting at I'll put it as plain as possible. I hope the 'Pearl Harbor League' flops hard and fast because deep in my heart I hope that people at home can see far enough ahead to know what a league of that type will lead to in the future."

## Col. Singles Promoted to New Command

Expresses Deep Regret In Leaving Famous Nisei Battalion

WITH THE SIXTH ARMY GROUP, FRANCE — Lieutenant Colonel Gordon Singles, commanding officer of the famous 100th Battalion of the 442nd Japanese American Combat Team, was transferred recently to a higher unit for a more important command.

It was with deep regret that the Colonel left the officers and men of the 100th Battalion.

Since it was impossible to call all the men together, most of whom are guarding the Allied lines along the Franco-Italian border, he wished his "Aloha" by a letter which read:

"Having been transferred from the 100th Infantry Battalion, I wish to take this opportunity to wish every one the best of everything. Since joining the One Puka Puka (Hawaiian for "00") at Anzio, we have gone many miles together and I feel that I am leaving home. This is not a goodbye but only until we meet again. God bless you and

Aloha."  
(signed) Gordon Singles  
Lt. Col. 100th Bn. 442nd C.T.  
Commanding

Colonel Singles led his Japanese American troops from the difficult Anzio fighting and through its breakthrough at Lanuvio to Rome and north to Leghorn and Pisa. At Belvedere and Sassetta, the Battalion, under his skillful direction, won the War Department's Distinguished Unit Citation for capturing and killing 271 Germans, driving the enemy back six precious miles, and seizing 46 vehicles, five tanks, three 150 mm field guns, and countless small arms and ammunition. For his leadership in the Italian campaign, and particularly for the period from Anzio to Sassetta, he was awarded the Legion of Merit by the Fifth Army.

Japanese American soldiers of the 100th were among the first infantry troops to enter the great Italian seaport of Leghorn. They also fought in the vicinity of Pisa, being among the first Allied troops to cross the historic river Arno.

In the Vosges Mountains of Northeastern France, the Battalion encountered some of its bitterest fighting. They spearheaded the front-running Japanese American Combat Team's attack as a part of the 36 "Texas" Division which liberated the strategic towns of Bruyeres, Biffontaine, and St. Die, all commanding the approaches into Germany itself. It was in this sector that the 100th teamed up with other elements of the 442nd Combat Team to rescue the now famous Lost Battalion of World War II.

Under his direction, the 100th Battalion has taken every objective assigned to it.

Colonel Singles is a native of Denver, Colorado. He has been awarded the Legion of Merit, the Purple Heart, the Combat Infantryman's Badge, and the Distinguished Unit Badge.

## ALIEN INTERNEES HELP CONSTRUCT NEW HIGHWAY

BOISE, Idaho—Japanese enemy alien internees make the worst road-builders, with Italians a little better and Germans on top of the list, E. E. Kidder, senior highway engineer for the Federal public roads administration made in an observation last week while reporting that Japanese internees were making "fairly good progress" in construction of the Lewis and Clark highway in northern Idaho.

Kidder said that 100 Japanese internees, working under guard, have reached the junction of the Delway and Locks rivers on the highway's route over the Lolo pass from Missoula, Mont. The project is financed as a forest road.

(Internees used on this Federal road project are enemy aliens who were interned at the outset of the war and who volunteered for the work from enemy alien internment camps operated by the Department of Justice.)



## Nisei Soldier Awarded Medal in Philippines

WITH THE 77TH INFANTRY DIVISION ON LEYTE, P. I. — In a brief but dramatic ceremony in the Philippines, Tech. Sgt. Shigeo Ito, son of Mr. and Mrs. Toramatsu Ito, 4-7-D., Poston, Ariz., was awarded the Army's Bronze Star Medal "for meritorious service in connection with military operations against the enemy" during the period from July to August, 1944.

Sgt. Ito, a former resident of Riverside, Calif., is the section leader of the interpreter team attached to the 77th Division.

The efforts of Sgt. Ito and his comrades have been of "limitless value to the campaign," it was stated.

Sgt. Ito is a veteran of both the Guam and Leyte campaigns.

## PARENTS LEARN OF DEATH OF SON IN FRANCE

DENVER, Colo. — The parents of Pfc. John Y. Tanaka, 23, were notified on February 5 that their son was killed in action with the 42nd Regiment.

Pfc. Tanaka was inducted in Denver, February 29, 1944, trained at Camp Blanding, Florida and went overseas in August to Italy. Subsequently he was transferred to the Seventh Army in France.

He was born in Colusa, California. He graduated from Roosevelt high school in Los Angeles and was president of the Japanese Students Club in 1940. Word from his old alma mater indicated that he was the first from that school to die in action and that Roosevelt high school is going to honor him with a Gold Star ceremony. He studied for two years at UCLA at the school of medicine.

Pfc. Tanaka is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Tsunetaro Tanaka of 3635 Marion Street, three brothers, Jun, Bob and Lloyd, who are serving in the armed forces, a sister Ruth who is a cadet nurse at Colorado Springs, and Carol and Mrs. Ann Wakaywe both of Denver.

## Palo Alto School Honors Nisei Soldier Killed in France

PALO ALTO, Calif. — A letter of appreciation from a Japanese American serviceman for the gold star recently put on the Palo Alto high school service flag after the death of a Palo Alto Nisei, Fred Yamamoto, in France, has been received here.

The letter is from Pvt. Dan Iwata, now in Milwaukee, Wis., awaiting his call to active service.

"Many Americans are not as warm-hearted as the people of Palo Alto and would not honor soldiers of Japanese ancestry as you have done," Pvt. Iwata observed.

## Eight Students Held for Destroying Minidoka Property

An Associated Press report from Jerome, Idaho, reports that eight high school students, 16 and 17 years of age, have been charged with malicious destruction of property at the Minidoka relocation center, Hunt, Idaho.

Complaints were filed by Frank Barrett, project attorney, who said the youths tore up text books and broke windows of a school room at the center "because they disliked the teachers."

Barrett said several teachers told him they would close their classes unless the eight were dealt with.

## Two Nisei Girls Introduced at Educational Meet

ONTARIO, Calif. — Agnes Eto and Mary Akamatsu, who have recently relocated in California from Poston and are now attending Riverside high school, were introduced to the southern section of the California Principals' Association which met in Ontario on Feb.

Their introduction was made in connection with a panel discussion on international education.

## War in the Maritime Alps . . . Joe from Denver Fought And Died a GI Hero

WITH THE SIXTH ARMY GROUP, FRANCE—Joe from Denver, an American soldier of Japanese ancestry whose last name cannot now be disclosed for military reasons, was killed in action. This in itself is nothing novel to the famed Japanese American troops who are known for their vicious fighting against the German enemy. But the manner in which he died makes him another hero of this war.

Joe from Denver is dead. A bullet from an enemy machine pistol penetrated his chest, but he didn't die immediately. And while his breath and strength remained, he continued firing his Browning Automatic Rifle (BAR) until his hands could no longer hold his gun steady and his finger could not squeeze the trigger. He didn't leave his exposed position to seek either shelter or first aid, but kept right on spraying bullets at the enemy-occupied house and kept the Germans bottled up. Joe was largely responsible for the subsequent capture of 14 Nazis.

All this happened on a raiding party. The patrol itself was composed of Joe himself, First Lieutenant Gregory Ikeda of Puunene, Maui; Private First Class Tadashi Umamoto of Box 58, Kohala, Hawaii; Staff Sergeant Toshimi, also of Puunene, Maui; Private William Wada of 7-H-4C of the Granada War Relocation Center, Amache, Colorado; Private First Class Ben Horuchi of Route 9, Box 243, Portland, Ore.; Private First Class Roy Y. Ikeda, 1642 Buchanan Street, San Francisco, Calif.; Private First Class Robert S. Takaichi, 275½ Summit Avenue, St. Paul, Minn.; Private First Class Sho Tabata of Route 1, Box 59A, Gill, Calif.; and Private First Class Thomas S. Kobayakawa, 1027 West Sixth Street, Los Angeles, Calif.

Leaving their Command Post somewhere in the Maritime Alps, the raiding party of ten "wove" through the thickly-sown minefields, slipping from one huge jutting rock to another like shadows to prevent themselves from being seen by the Germans. It was shortly after midday that the patrol reached their destination, an enemy-occupied house on a commanding hill. Lieutenant Ikeda placed his men at strategic positions and then crept forward with Joe, his BAR man, up to the house from the front.

They heard voices from within. The lieutenant tried to force the door. It would not yield. Then the duo let their lead-belching guns speak through the door.

"You better give up! Caput!" the two Japanese Americans yelled.

In answer, the Germans replied with their weapons. One ran out from a side door, firing his machine pistol as he went. Hand grenades started flying from the windows at the attackers. The members of the patrol, having anticipated this maneuver, fired back, aiming at the windows.

At this point, Joe, quickly noting that the Germans were in a more advantageous position than his comrades, smashed through the front door. Firing burst after burst into the doorway, he forced the enemy to retreat further back into the rooms and away from the windows. He seriously wounded two Germans who died later as they tried to fire upon his comrades on the outside.

A ricocheting bullet from the machine pistol of the "escaped" German dug into his chest. Joe turned upon this enemy savagely and killed him with a spray from his BAR. He then turned back to the Germans in the house and continued to pour bullets at them.

The Wehrmacht members imprisoned by Joe's fire surrendered to the Japanese Americans. One officer and 13 men were taken prisoners. Three were found dead.

Joe from Denver died before the Germans were taken into custody. But it was his savagery with his BAR that compelled them to give up.

Fighting to death—and even beyond—typifies the spirit of the men of the 100th Battalion of the 442nd Japanese American Combat Team, of which Joe from Denver is a typical member.

## Nisei Troops Catch Germans Napping With 'Squeeze Play'

WITH THE SIXTH ARMY GROUP, FRANCE—One morning late last fall in the rugged Vosges Mountains of Northeastern France, a platoon of soldiers of the 442nd Japanese American Combat Team, then attached to the 36th "Texas" Division, decided to try a squeeze play on an unsuspecting enemy reconnaissance patrol.

When the enemy patrol of nine men was seen coming through the valley leading into Moulinet, Technical Sergeant Yukio Okutsu, of Koloa, Kauai, Territorial Hawaii, and the platoon leader, First Lieutenant Jesse Connors of Bowling Green, Kentucky, decided on a plan to capture the enemy.

The platoon was to separate into three sections and close in from three sides. The route of escape was to be covered by machine gun and mortar fire.

At the precise moment designated for the attack, the three sections closed in from the high ground. Gradually, the enemy was forced down the ravine and into the trap. After discovering that the entrance was sealed by machine gun and mortar fire, they threw up their arms and surrendered.

Questioning the prisoners revealed the fact that they were to have brought back information and most important of all, prisoners. If the mission was successful, they were promised two weeks furloughs each.

It was near these same woods that the Combat Team rescued the lost Battalion of this war. When the Seventh Army was driving through the Vosges Mountains, one battalion of the "Texas" Division was trapped in the heavily wooded forests. After seven days of bitter fighting, the Japanese

American troops finally slashed their way through the tight enemy encirclement.

Before coming to France, the unit had fought in Italy with the famed 34th "Red Bull" Division in the Allied push from north of Rome to and across the Arno River.

## PVT. YOSHIHARA KILLED IN ACTION ON GERMAN FRONT

RIVERS, Ariz. — Pvt. Makoto Yoshihara, 24, son of Mr. and Mrs. Shuji Yoshihara of 47-2-B, Gila River relocation center, was killed in action in Germany on Dec. 22, according to War Department information received by his parents last week.

Pvt. Yoshihara, a native of Guadalupe, Calif., previously had been reported missing in action.

A public memorial service for Pvt. Yoshihara was held on Feb. 22 at the Butte high school auditorium.

The only child in the family, Pvt. Yoshihara was a graduate of Santa Maria high school in California.

## Eighth Nisei Joins WAC From Poston

POSTON, Ariz. — Pvt. Tsuruko Mizusawa who has begun her WAC training at Fort Des Moines, Iowa, is the eighth WAC from Poston, the Chronicle reports.

Pvt. Mizusawa, 21, graduated from high school in Venice, California, as a music major.

## Federal Court Asked to Rule On Validity of Army Orders Banning Individuals from Coast

Dr. Ochikubo, Shigekawa, Yamamoto Challenge Western Defense Command Procedures in Suit Filed Last Week in Los Angeles Court

LOS ANGELES—Whether military authorities have constitutional power to continue to order the exclusion of American citizens of Japanese descent, on an individual basis, was the question presented to Judge Peirson M. Hall of the Federal Court at Los Angeles on Feb. 20 in the cases of Dr. George Ochikubo, Elmer Yamamoto and Kiyoshi Shigekawa.

Dr. Ochikubo is a dentist from Oakland, now at the War Relocation center at Topaz, Utah. Mr. Yamamoto is an attorney,

practicing law in Los Angeles prior to the evacuation, and now at the Poston Relocation Center. Mr. Shigekawa was a resident of San Pedro prior to the evacuation, and head of the Fishermen's Union, American Federation of Labor.

Individual exclusion orders were issued first by General Charles Hartwell Bonesteel, Western Defense Command, and later by the present Commanding General of the Western Defense Command, General H. C. Pratt. The cases, filed in cooperation with the American Civil Liberties Union, through both its National and Southern California offices, urge that there is now no military necessity warranting exclusion proceedings by the military authorities; and that the courts and the civil law enforcement agencies are adequate to deal with any claimed danger of espionage or sabotage from persons of Japanese descent, as well as from persons of any descent. The military exclusion procedure is being challenged on the ground that it deprives the plaintiffs of their constitutional rights in that the proceedings are secret, and the "subjects" are afforded no opportunity adequately to know information relied upon by the military as the basis for the issuing of any exclusion order. This, it is claimed, denies "due process of law" under the federal constitution.

The suits seek an injunction against the military authorities restraining them from enforcing the exclusion orders and particularly from using military force in such enforcement. In answers filed in behalf of Generals Pratt and Bonesteel, they admit that they intend to use military and physical force in the enforcement of the exclusion orders.

Representing the plaintiffs are attorneys A. L. Wirin and J. B. Tietz of the Southern California ACLU; representing the military are Charles H. Carr, United States Attorney, and Edward J. Ennis of the Department of Justice, from Washington, D. C.

## Two Granadans Leave for Coast

AMACHE, Colo.—Robert Tashima and Robbin Kaneko, former supervisor and assistant supervisor of the evacuee relocation information office, left on Feb. 18 for California. Dr. T. Miyamoto will succeed them as head of the bureau.

of peace. However, now the 171st is just another page of history. "You have made a record of which you may well be proud, and I am confident that had you stayed together, you would have been second to none, no matter what the assignment."

## Hostel Opened in Los Angeles To Aid Evacuee Resettlement

LOS ANGELES — The demand for temporary lodging facilities for evacuees returning to the Los Angeles area has been so great that the Evergreen Hostel, 506 North Evergreen Ave., Los Angeles 33, has allowed guests to stay in the building although its renovation has not yet been completed, Miss Esther B. Rhoads, co-director of the evacuee hostel, reported last week.

It is hoped that by March 1, accommodations for 30 to 40 persons will be available, Miss Rhoads stated.

The purpose of the hostel, sponsored by the American Friends Service Committee and the Presbyterian Church, is to provide temporary housing for evacuees of Japanese ancestry seeking perma-

nent homes and jobs in the Los Angeles area.

Applications should be made well in advance to the directors of the hostel, Miss Rhoads and the Rev. Sohei Kowta. In view of the limited space, it will be necessary to receive approval of definite dates before reservations are considered valid, it was stated.

The hostel will be operated on a cooperative basis and each guest will share in the household chores. There will be a nominal charge of a dollar a day for room and board for the first days of the visit. After jobs are secured, or if guests desire to remain longer than ten days, a regular charge of \$1.50 a day will be made.

Guests are asked to bring their own sheets, blankets and towels.



# PACIFIC CITIZEN

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LARRY TAJIRI EDITOR

## EDITORIALS: Hood River Land Grab

The Hood River, Ore., post of the American Legion, and those citizens of the Hood River Valley who are supporting the post's program regarding Americans of Japanese ancestry, are being finally shown up for what they are—land-grabbers who are using the war situation to extend their control over orchard property developed and owned by persons of Japanese ancestry. All of the flaunting of patriotic symbols by the Hood River Legionnaires, and all of their talk about the "disloyalty" of the Japanese American residents of the valley, simmer down to what now has been revealed, in newspaper advertisements sponsored by the anti-evacuee group, to be a cheap, despicable attempt to gain control over the property of the evacuees through intimidation and forced-sale procedures.

The Hood River Valley is justly famed for its apples and pears, for its green hills and orchard lands. But a group of angry men has brought shame to the valley, and has made the name Hood River synonymous with bigotry and unreasoning hatred. Fighting men from Hood River, writing home from fox-holes along the Western Front and from jungle outposts in the Pacific, are deeply concerned over the stigma which has been attached to the name of their home valley through the actions of a group of avaricious men.

There have been suggestions in some quarters that the people of America impose a boycott on the products of the Hood River Valley until the Hood River Legion adopts an attitude which will be more consistent with American ideals. It has been stated that a boycott would speak the kind of economic language which the race-baiters will understand, that it will hit the racists in the pocketbook. But the advisability of such a boycott is one to be questioned seriously. Such a campaign would punish the innocent as well as the guilty.

It should not be forgotten that there are many people in the Hood River Valley who have not approved of the actions of their Legion post and have stated such opposition openly. Letters and statements condemning the Legion's action have appeared in the columns of the News, one of Hood River's two weeklies and a paper which has maintained an objective attitude throughout the entire controversy.

The people who have advocated a boycott on the products of Hood River have only the most laudable aims in proposing such a drastic step. But if a boycott is to be declared on the products of one Oregon valley, it would seem only just to extend it to cover other areas where racist actions have been taken—in the White River and Puyallup valleys, in Fresno and Placer counties. In the end a program of reprisal by boycott would lead only to confusion and the original purpose, that of simple justice for which such a movement was started, would be forgotten.

And it would seem that the most telling argument against a boycott is the fact that the boycott is the identical weapon which is now being used by the organized race-baiters of the West Coast in their contemptible attempt to prevent the return of their Japanese American neighbors. Men of good will need not stoop to the use of tactics wielded by the night-riders and the amateur fascists. The boycott is the weapon of the Remember Pearl Harbor League, of Oregon Anti-Japanese Inc., of the Hood River American Legion, of the California Preservation Association of Placer County and of a small group of disgraceful adults who sought to circu-

late among the students of a California high school a badge which pledged the youth not to speak to, fraternize with or be seen with an American of Japanese ancestry.

There are forces for justice and decency in the Hood River Valley, as there are in every community. It will be for these forces to organize and cleanse their community of the disgrace which was brought upon it by a small group of men who cannot see beyond the horizon of their own selfish economic interests.

## Organized Action

Barron B. Beshoar, political writer for the Rocky Mountain News and president of the Denver Newspaper Guild, discusses the strength of organized action by men of good will in an article, "When Good Will Is Organized" in the Spring, 1945, issue of *Common Ground*. Mr. Beshoar reviews the agitation against land ownership by persons of Japanese ancestry which culminated in the campaign last year for the passage of an anti-alien land law at the November elections, after similar legislation had been defeated in the Colorado Senate.

The *Common Ground* article exposes the nature of the anti-evacuee opposition in Colorado. "Small-time demagogues," writes Mr. Beshoar, "one of whom was the leader of a (Ku Klux) Klan remnant that maintained its unit vigor when the state-wide organization was relegated to the less praiseworthy pages of Colorado's history books, panicked Caucasian farmers in these communities with reports that Japanese were buying up the best land and would freeze them out of their homes through 'cut-throat Oriental competition.'"

Anti-evacuees groups were organized into "The American League of Colorado" and secured enough signatures to place an anti-alien land proposal on the November ballot. Fair play forces countered with the organization of the Committee for Fair Play which included among its active membership many leading Colorado citizens. This Committee for Fair Play conducted a militant campaign through newspaper publicity, radio interviews and direct mail.

The fair play forces won in Colorado last December. Mr. Beshoar credits the well-planned statewide campaign of the Colorado Committee for Fair Play and "material and information" from Joe Masaoka, JACL representative in Denver, with preventing the State from adopting "ill-advised, un-American legislation."

"This Colorado experience proves that movements against the rights and privileges of minority groups can successfully be met in the open by forceful and intelligent action on the part of men of goodwill," Barron Beshoar concludes.

## Yellow Peril in Canada

British Columbia's politicians, who once took their Yellow Peril cues from the native sons of California, have now outdistanced their American brethren in the scope and viciousness of their race-baiting. With Canada facing a national election in the near future, political figures on the Dominion's West Coast have approached new heights of vituperation against their Japanese Canadian scape goats.

One notable feature of the current agitation, which may have been inspired in part by the fear the United States government's policy of removing restrictions against the return of Japanese Americans to the West Coast evacuated area may give rise to a parallel policy in Canada, is the role of Cooperative Commonwealth Federation (CCF), Canada's socialist party, which has continued to uphold its policy of fair and democratic treatment of Japanese Canadians. The stabilizing role of the CCF in the midst of this welter of unbridled racism is augmented by the fact that, unlike left-wing parties in the United States, it is a major influence in Canadian politics and has already organized in Saskatchewan what is North America's first socialist government.

The CCF has placed principles above politics in its avowal of the citizenship rights of Canadians of Japanese ancestry, and political observers in the Dominion are watching closely the effect of this stand upon the party's popularity in the coming elections. Whatever the outcome, the effectiveness of the Yellow Peril issue is due to be tested in the crucible of a national election in Canada.

# Nisei USA

## The Nisei and the Films

Many months ago when the war was younger and the Allies were still digging at the outer defense of Fortress Europe, a famous Hollywood director, engaged in the production of an Army indoctrination film, proposed the use of a Japanese American soldier in one of the pictures in such a way as to dramatize the not-too-widely-accepted fact at that time, that the Nisei were doing their share toward victory. Somewhere along the way, however, some brass hat objected and the Nisei soldier didn't appear in the part after all. The relationship of the Nisei to the screen has been a series of such frustrations.

Whether it may have been done unwittingly or by design, Hollywood has been rough on Japanese Americans since Pearl Harbor. The geographical location of the world's film capital in California may help explain the distorted perspective from which Hollywood has viewed the Nisei in the few films which have commented on persons of Japanese ancestry in a wartime America. The sun-kissed hysteria of the Native Sons has been reflected in such films as "Air Force," "Across the Pacific," and "Little Tokyo, USA," as well as in a number of B and C-grade quickies which gave wide circulation to those rumors regarding Nisei sabotage and espionage which have now been completely disproven, but which had a powerful effect on public opinion before the real story of courage and loyalty at Pearl Harbor was available.

"Air Force," one of the most important Warner Brothers productions of 1943, told and retold the fiction of mass disloyalty on Hawaii long after the rumors which the film presented as fact had been proved false. The fact that two men of high cinematic integrity, Writer Dudley Nichols ("Grapes of Wrath," "The Informer," "This Land is Mine") and Director Howard Hawks of the current anti-fascist melodrama, "To Have and Have Not," were responsible for "Air Force," would imply that the picture was never intended to be race-baiting document that it became and that those persons responsible for its production were honestly convinced that sabotage by Hawaii's Japanese Americans impaired the defense of the islands on Dec. 7, 1941.

"Air Force" has been discussed on several occasions in these columns. It has been reported previously that the producers were advised of the false and dangerous information presented as fact in the picture, but that the Warner Brothers (who have produced many of the finest films of the war, such as "Watch on the Rhine," "Casablanca" and "Action in the North Atlantic") made no effort to correct its inaccuracies, which included scenes of an attack on a B-17 by an armed band of Japanese saboteurs on the Island of Maui, the charge of an Army Air Corps officer in the film that Hickam Field was rendered defenseless by Japanese Americans from Honolulu who snipped off the tails of the P-38's, and the lie (repeated also by Congressman Tolan at his committee's hearing on the West Coast evacuation) that Japanese Americans blocked the highways of Hawaii to hinder military operations. The case of "Air Force" is stressed because the film must share its part of the responsibility for the circulation of the false rumors which have helped maintain the suspicion with which the Japanese Americans are still regarded in some quarters. It is ironic that these stories of sabotage in Hawaii have been used against persons of Japanese ancestry in the continental United States, and not against Japanese Americans in Hawaii—the obvious fact being that the people of Hawaii were well aware of the true story of the reaction of the territory's people of Japanese ancestry to the infamous attack on Dec. 7.

"Little Tokyo, USA," which recounted alleged underhand doings by Japanese Americans in Los

Angeles, was a similar tangle of dangerous lies, although it claimed authenticity in a note at the beginning of the film which declared that it was based on material collected by the Dies Committee! (The exclamation point is ours.)

It should be noted, however, that "Air Force," "Little Tokyo" and "Across the Pacific" were all produced in the months which followed Pearl Harbor and were undoubtedly inspired by the same wild rumors which helped prepare the public atmosphere for mass evacuation. The Nisei renegade of "Across the Pacific," who is foiled by Humphrey Bogart in the last reel as he attempts to destroy the Panama Canal, was completely the figment of a film writer's imagination, however, and had no parallel even in the wildest of the fanciful tales circulated at the time.

No Hollywood film produced during the past year has attempted a direct disparagement of the Americanism of the Nisei, and Hollywood has shown, in fact, a deeper appreciation of its role as a powerful medium of propaganda. Film colony progressives, particularly among the screen writers, have been instrumental in revising Hollywood's penchant toward the picturing of non-whites in roles which denote racial inferiority. In recent pictures the Negro soldier in "Sahara" and the Chinese guerrillas of "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" have a dignity rarely bestowed hitherto by the American film on non-Caucasians. This growing acceptance by Hollywood of its responsibility as a force for democracy augurs well for the films of the future.

Americans of Japanese ancestry have felt some of the backwash of hate inspired by films which dramatize the atrocities for which the Japanese enemy is responsible. That the Nisei will suffer from the hatred of some Americans against all persons of Japanese ancestry because of the war is unfortunate, but not always avoidable. Mildred Fleming, who reviews films for the *Daily Peoples' World* of San Francisco, touched on this point in her report on Warner's "Objective, Burma!" She cited a scene in which a newspaper correspondent, played by Henry Hull, demands that all Japanese be wiped from the face of the earth and commented: "This diatribe against all Japanese people has unfortunate implications for loyal Japanese Americans." It might be noted, parenthetically, that there are no Nisei soldiers in "Objective, Burma!" although reports from the Burma front indicate that Japanese American GI specialists accompanied Merrill's Marauders and other U. S. units on the very sort of operations covered in this picture.

Hollywood's attitude toward the Nisei, reflected in the racist films of 1942, are, of course, only a part of the screen's general attitude toward all of America's tensions through the presentation of racial stereotypes. Hollywood's film writers last year adopted a code of ethics in which they pledged to eschew such stereotypes and, in fact, anything contributing to racial prejudice or antagonism. Under such impetus a forward-looking Hollywood may one day produce a film which will present the Nisei, not as the saboteurs of "Air Force," but as ordinary Americans.

## Hero Named Frank SHARON, PA., HERALD

One of the many editorials published by U. S. newspapers on the heroic sacrifice of Tech. Sgt. Frank Hachiya in the Philippines was the comment published by the *Sharon, Pa., Herald* on Feb. 22. Recounting the heroism of Frank Hachiya, the *Herald* added:

"Frank died for his country in a war which is, in essence, a battle against the bigoted doctrine of racial superiority. Frank's name used to be on the county memorial roll of Hood River, Ore. It isn't any more. For Frank's name was Hachiya, and his skin was yellow, and, though he was an American, his ancestors were of the enemy race."



## Vagaries

### Housing . . .

Because of San Francisco's acute shortage of housing, six Japanese American families which are moving to the city to work in OWI have been assigned apartments in the Berkeley Federal Housing Project . . . Robert O'Brien, San Francisco Chronicle columnist, told the story on Feb. 21 of a returning evacuee who was robbed of \$65.00 on a bus. When the theft was reported to the bus driver, the latter drove the bus with its passengers aboard into a darkened garage to give the thief the opportunity to return the money unseen. The money was not returned . . . Two of the three ski champions crowned at the Fort Snelling winter carnival in Minnesota were Japanese American GIs . . . The National Legionnaire in its February issue carries the full statement of National Commander Scheiberling's request to the Hood River Legion post to restore Nisei names to its war memorial.

### Hospital . . .

Young Toyoko Murayama from Gila River, who unwittingly became the center of controversy of national proportions when she was denied admittance to Chicago's Jackson Park hospital, a private institution, entered another Chicago hospital on Feb. 9 and underwent a "successful operation" the next day. Miss Murayama's physician, Dr. Shevin, who resigned from the Jackson Park hospital over its discriminatory policy, has been the recipient of editorial tributes in many of the nation's leading newspapers for his courage and forthright action . . . Several months ago the Canadian government revised its policy and began the induction of Chinese Canadians under its selective service policy. Recently Canada's first all-Chinese platoon completed its training. Ottawa still refuses to induct Japanese Canadians, although British units in the Asiatic war theatre have been reported using Americans of Japanese ancestry on "loan" from U. S. forces. Individual Nisei Canadians have petitioned the Dominion government for the right to fight in the Canadian army. One reason for Ottawa's refusal to induct Canadian Nisei is said to be the fanatical opposition to such a policy from political and economic interests on the Canadian West Coast.

### Boogie Woogie . . .

S. I. Hayakawa, whose "Language in Action" was a best-seller, is a recognized authority on American jazz besides being an authority on semantics. Hayakawa discusses both boogie-woogie and race-relations in a weekly column for the Chicago Defender, one of Chicago's leading Negro newspapers. On March 17 he is scheduled to speak on "Reflections on the History of Jazz" for Chicago's "Poetry Committee." Hayakawa is a member of the English department of Illinois Institute of Technology . . . Fifty copies of one of the two bilingual Japanese dailies in Honolulu are sent by the U. S. Army daily for the use of enemy civilian prisoners on Saipan . . . The Northern California ACLU expresses its appreciation for a contribution from an anonymous Nisei in Chicago . . . GIs on the Western Front are well-informed on the contributions of Japanese Americans to the war effort. On Feb. 9 the *Marseilles* edition of *Stars and Stripes*, daily newspaper of U. S. armed forces in Europe, reported in a three-column headline and story, "Niseis in Wartime Washington Show Loyalty in Essential Jobs."

### Sergeant . . .

Frank Hachiya of Hood River, Ore., who died a hero's death in the Leyte campaign, held the rank of Tech. 3rd Grade in the U. S. Army. He is the son of Junkichi Hachiya who resides at 37-1-E in Minidoka. News reports from the Philippines did not give his rating and most U. S. newspapers referred to him as a private. He was listed by *Time Magazine* on Feb. 26 as the U. S. hero of the week.

### CIO Worker . . .

A Nisei secretary is now working in the San Francisco office of

## Japanese American Soldiers Occupy Famed French Resort Town Near Italian Frontier

Menton Stands Deserted With Only Hints of Its Past Grandeur; Nisei Soldiers Walk Streets Of One of Europe's Most Famous Playgrounds

WITH THE SIXTH ARMY GROUP, FRANCE — The well known town of Menton, France, in the hands of the 100th Battalion soldiers, with the 442nd Japanese American Combat Team, is far different from the pre-war quiet that the tourists used to know. There were fine wines, champagnes, and liquors then; and the hotels and restaurants served excellent seafoods.

Englishmen and Americans, shunning the bustle of Monaco or Nice, took themselves to this retreat ville and were content to idle a few dollars or pounds in the evenings at the Grand Casino. Or they attended the American movies which were popular in all parts of France, or heard the operas which had been imported from Paris to the Grand Casino Theatre.

Today, although all those hints of former grandeur are in evidence, Menton stands deserted. A few Japanese American soldiers stroll through the streets, look at the shops with broken panes where shell fragments have whoshed through, or "Bonjour" the few remaining civilians who courteously return their greetings. Scattered bars gape their doors hungrily, but the patrons seldom accumulate there or stay long. Bits of news of the war are left there or picked up; and when the drinkers discover there is nothing more to be learned, they leave the bars.

About a mile from Menton and its famous beach is the Italian town of Ventimiglia, which is occupied by the Germans. Occasionally the enemies are observed by the artillery members of the Combat Team entrenched on top of a high hill, and a barrage is let loose at the Germans.

At the northern hilly end of the town is the well-built Cathedral of St. Michele, that was constructed in 1643. The interior is scattered with shattered stained-glasses and particles of plaster and the soaring nave has been pierced on the right side by ten pieces of shrapnel. Rays of sunlight penetrating through these holes stretch obliquely through the dusty air. Several hits have been registered by the Germans recently on the roof. Another older church that has since been converted into living quarters stands directly before St. Michele. And there is a dingy stone structure siding next to this ex-church across a path which was an old hospital. It has long ago been replaced by a more modern one.

Hundreds of ancient buildings cluster about St. Michele, and the narrow, red-brick-lined steps leading up to the cathedral have been eaten out as much as two inches in places by countless thousands who have walked up these steps to the chapel. For about four hundred years, the same twisting streets that now know little life have been used by the French and by the Italians who have immigrated here.

In the old days, this section was the fashionable living quarters which looked toward Italy and the calm sea. Before the war, curious tourists puffingly climbed to this high place and enjoyed the charming view this vantage point offered. Modern Menton lying below, spread all along the mile long shore line, filled the valley, and crept high to the sides of the Maritime Alps.

The swanky chalets and hotels still glisten magnificently white on their rocky perches when the sun beats on Menton.

Menton has passed through many wars; it will also survive this.

a CIO union. . . In addition to bus drivers, dieticians, and nurses the City of Detroit at present employs five Nisei medicos, Doctors Hiratzka, Horio, Iseri, Iwata and Teshima. . . A recent Nisei visitor to Seattle reports that the city's "produce row" is plastered with "No Japs Wanted" signs distributed by the Remember Pearl Harbor League. . . It's reported that Japanese Americans have now been cleared for civil service jobs at army installations in the Seventh Service Command.

## Letter-Box FROM OUR READERS

### Takayoshi Case

(Note: Published reports in West Coast papers of the resignation of a Japanese American nurse, Masako Takayoshi, from her position at Harborview General Hospital in Seattle may have given the erroneous impression that Miss Takayoshi's resignation was due to the attitude of the officials at the Seattle hospital. The letter below from Miss Jane Fenimore Korngold, Director of Nursing Service at Harborview General Hospital, is self-explanatory.)

Editor, The Pacific Citizen:

There seems to be considerable misunderstanding concerning the circumstances connected with the departure of Miss Masako Takayoshi from this institution and this city recently.

I am in receipt of numerous letters protesting Miss Takayoshi's withdrawal or removal from the staff as a result of petitions and protests from staff members and employees.

It distresses me to be classified as one who would discharge a fellow citizen as a result of racial prejudice. I am glad to say that no petitions were ever presented to me or to other officers in this institution expressing dissatisfaction on the part of our staff and employees on account of Miss Takayoshi's presence here. We read in the Seattle papers that a petition had been circulated, but that is the only knowledge we have of a petition.

Nor did employees of the institution call or send representatives to the executive complaining of Miss Takayoshi's presence and requesting her removal.

Miss Takayoshi was invited to resume her position as Supervisor of Surgical Service by the proper authorities of the University of Washington and Harborview Hospital. Upon her return she was welcomed with enthusiasm by all members of the faculty and by the student body. Miss Takayoshi told me that she observed no ill will on the part of the patients.

I cannot ascertain that any one in the hospital ever addressed Miss Takayoshi in an impolite or rude manner. We have a very large staff. I think that out of 100 nurses (not faculty members) probably three "cut her cold."

Probably the worst of it was the matter of the anonymous letters. Miss Takayoshi's mail was rather heavy, and an anonymous letter has a psychological irritation.

I continue to receive anonymous letters myself. But, I am happy to say that for each one that objects to the return and employment of Japanese Americans here, there are a dozen that are shocked at the un-American attitude of those who caused the unpleasantness.

Miss Takayoshi was at Harborview but two weeks. Her friends and well-wishers were of the opinion that the atmosphere was growing clearer every day. We felt sure that an additional two weeks would have seen the end of the "whispering campaign." We do not have it in our hearts to criticize Miss Takayoshi. We have only regrets. We feel sure that with just a little perseverance the situation would have resolved itself satisfactorily. Personally, I would wish for 100 per cent cooperation in this institution and this city in assisting in the return of our residents of Japanese ancestry. However, I do not think that 100 per cent support to the policy can be expected. What righteous cause did ever, anywhere, have 100 per cent support? Unhappily, our racial minorities did not have 100 per cent support even before the evacuation. My feeling is that the situation here at Harborview afforded excellent opportunity for the return of any Japanese American nurse who really desired to establish herself

## From the Frying Pan

By BILL HOSOKAWA

### Progress Vs. Reaction in Post-War America

The least socially-conscious Nisei is aware by now that a combination of circumstances has made him a pawn of the nation's wartime emotions.

He is less aware of what has become increasingly more apparent—that the nation's treatment of the Nisei problem is but one facet of a powerful, portentous struggle between the forces of liberalism and progress on the one hand, and those of conservatism and reaction on the other to determine the course of the postwar American way of life.

## EDITORIAL DIGEST

### Playing With Fire SELMA ENTERPRISE

"If the fire which destroyed the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Robert T. Morishige on Second Street . . . was of incendiary origin, which has not been established, it was a thoroughly cowardly act which cannot be condoned by any right-thinking citizen," the *Selma, Calif., Enterprise* commented on Feb. 22.

"Besides destroying property, which is in itself an act of sabotage, it has brought discredit upon this community and has undermined the faith of all sincere Americans in the stability of democratic processes which do not tolerate any degree of lawlessness."

The editorial praised the Americanism of the Morishiges, recalling the participation of the family in community activities before the evacuation.

"In itself, the burning of a house or the firing of shots at a farm house occupied by returned evacuees is relatively insignificant," the *Enterprise* added. "It is important only because it is a manifestation of racial prejudice, the very thing that set Nazi Germany on its mad career to dominate the world. If we are more tolerant than the Nazis or the militarists of Japan, then we must practice what we preach and suppress any blind prejudices that do more damage to ourselves than to those against whom they are directed."

### Busy Iowa Nisei DES MOINES TRIBUNE

"The West Coast's loss is Iowa's gain," the *Des Moines, Ia., Tribune* declared in an editorial last week, citing a WRA report on how 486 evacuees of Japanese ancestry have fitted into the life of the State.

The report, noted by the *Tribune*, listed 102 of the evacuees as non-employables, housewives, children and aged. Another 152 are students. The others have all kinds of jobs, according to the *Tribune*.

The biggest group, 80 persons, are in the service trades, hotel, hospital and domestic work, while 74 are skilled workers in industry. Among the latter are 21 welders. One young Nisei woman is described as one of the most competent welders and mechanics employed by a Des Moines manufacturing company. There are 21 unskilled workers and 21 clerical employees, in addition to 18 farm workers and 18 professional employees. Among the professional group are the acting clinical director of a large hospital and an osteopathic physician who has his own office in a small Iowa city.

### A Promising Step PALO ALTO TIMES

"Too often in cases of mob violence, when the excitement of the incident has passed there is official tendency to forget and overlook it," the *Palo Alto, Calif., Times* declared on Feb. 24, adding that it was "reassuring" that four men, charged with attempting the dynamite the home of a Nisei near Auburn are being held on criminal charges and must answer for their act of violence.

"The seriousness of the offense," the *Times* said, "is not mitigated by the fact that the participants may have been motivated by a false sense of patriotism when they took matters into their own hands."

in Seattle in her professional capacity.

I have many friends of Japanese ancestry in the nursing profession. I would deeply regret a misunderstanding on their part of the actual circumstances which Miss Takayoshi met here.

Sincerely,  
Janet Fenimore Korngold  
Director of Nursing Service  
Harborview Hospital,  
Seattle, Wash.

The connection between the Nisei issue and this struggle is not always clear.

But their objectives have an unmistakable similarity. In the end, those who through greed or prejudice or ignorance oppose fair play toward Japanese Americans are striving for the same goals as the reactionaries of economic monopoly and self-sufficiency.

Progressive or reactionary, there is no question of patriotism or national interest. Both groups defend stoutly their claim that their course alone means the economic and political well-being of the United States. Both declare loudly that the theories of opposition forces can lead only to chaos and national ruin.

The arguments are similar at the level of the Japanese American issue. Those who would oust the "Jap" now and forever claim the nation can never be safe with an unassimilable element in its midst, that restrictive measures are being advocated to protect the national welfare, and of course economic interests. Opposed to this group is one that argues for the sanctity of American principles because it believes the common man is entitled to an opportunity to live in security and dignity.

The tawdy drama of greed and hate that's taking place in some of the Pacific Coast's agricultural valleys today has its counterpart, regarding far vaster issues and on a higher and larger plane, of course, in the nation's capital.

There are no nightriders in Washington, D. C., nor are there organizations which go around figuratively blackjacking merchants into posting hostile placards.

But those very things are taking place in more genteel form in such events as the battle to confirm Henry Wallace as secretary of commerce, or Aubrey Williams as director of the rural electrification administration.

No political tactic was too low in the attempt to keep Henry Wallace out of the cabinet. His great crime was the intention to make reality out of a "vision" of 60 million jobs after the war for Americans.

And Williams, whose national youth administration helped thousands to work their way through college during depression days, has been the target of slander, half-truths and Dies committee bludgeoning as an alleged Communist.

In times of peace when the national tempo is at a slower pace, the schism between the far-left and the far right is less noticeable than during wartime. After World War I the Bolsheviks were the targets of a nationwide reaction against radicalism. There were bloody clashes between the extreme leftists and the forces of conservatism as embodied in the government.

This time the extremes appear to be separated by a lesser gap, although the rivalries are just as strong.

And where do the Japanese Americans come in? These elements that would deny the Nisei their rights are the ones that are opposed to the theories of Wallace and Williams.

In their own, small sphere, the Japanese Americans are the symbol of the little man, the descendants of the recent immigrant group striving to make their way under the American way of life. By strange chance — and though most persons may not realize it — the struggle of the Japanese Americans epitomizes the struggle of all of America's little men.

Race, color and wartime hate complicate the Japanese American's position, but one need not go down very deep into the problem to realize that there is little that is fundamentally different in the problems of all little men.



## Joe E. Brown Asks Fair Play For Japanese American Group

### Film Actor Tells Of Nisei Troops He Saw in Italy

SAN FRANCISCO — Joe E. Brown, motion picture comedian and radio star, asked for fair play for Americans of Japanese ancestry in a speech Friday before one of the largest Commonwealth Club gatherings in years at the Palace hotel.

Brown, who has traveled 200,000 miles to entertain servicemen in every war theater, said that he knew of the loyalty and courage of Japanese American soldiers from personal experience.

"I was there," Brown said. "I saw 1500 Japanese American boys going to the front in Italy."

The wide-mouthed comedian, in his serious plea for better understanding, said that twenty percent or more of the wounded men in many of the Italian hospitals he had visited were Japanese Americans.

"Why can't they be accepted as Americans?" he asked.

He asked the audience not to let selfish ambitions frustrate the better understanding among all people that is resulting from the war.

"Papers signed won't stop war; they never have," he said. "But the understanding of the other person that is coming out of this war—that's the framework of everlasting peace."

Brown received two standing ovations during his speech.

## Baptist Association Files Suit Against Hongwanji Group

LOS ANGELES — Conflict between the Providence Baptist Association, Negro religious organization, and the Hongwanji Buddhist Temple over possession of church and other premises at Central Ave. and East First St. reached the Superior Court on Feb. 24, the Times reported, with the filing of a suit in which the Baptist association charges it was illegally evicted from the premises on Jan. 2 by the Buddhist temple and other defendants.

The suit asked damages of \$15,000.

It was reported that the Buddhist temple group had given a lease to the First Street Clinic, which occupies a portion of an office building adjoining the church for use of the property for the duration.

## Fujie Maehara Weds James Nakagawa

ANN ARBOR, Mich.—Before a group of 130 friends, Miss Fujie Maehara, formerly office secretary of JACL National Headquarters in Salt Lake City, became the bride of James Nakagawa of this city on Feb. 10.

Both bride and groom are connected with the University of Michigan.

The bride was a member of the Portland JACL prior to evacuation. Her parents are now living at Ontario, Oregon.

## Nisei Help Carroll College Cage Squad

WAUKESHA, Wis.—Indicative of their complete participation in school events, all three Nisei boys in attendance at Carroll College were members of the Pioneer cage squad which defeated a ragged playing quintet from White-water State Teachers College, 39 to 16, on February 20 in Waukesha.

They are: George Tsuda and David Iino, Central Utah, guards; Sam Shinozaki, Minidoka, forward. Iino, who expects his army call in the near future, and Tsuda are sophomores; Shinozaki, a freshman.

## Army Colonel Lauds Nisei in Service

Praise for the valor and fighting mettle of Americans of Japanese ancestry in the U. S. Army was given by Col. Allender Swift of Salt Lake City in an address before members of the Exchange club on Feb. 9 at Hotel Utah.

## Vital Statistics

### BIRTHS

To Mr. and Mrs. John Mayeda, 30-3-D, Heart Mountain, a girl on Feb. 17.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kay Tomiye, 15-23-A, Heart Mountain, a girl on Feb. 17.

To Mr. and Mrs. George Onchi, 15-8-B, Heart Mountain, a boy on Feb. 21.

To Mr. and Mrs. Mamoru Noguchi, 40-7-D, Rohwer, a boy on Feb. 16.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hiroshi Nagata, 3-10-B, Rohwer, a boy on Feb. 16.

To Pvt. and Mrs. Sonny Yonesawa, 4-1-D, Rohwer, a boy on Feb. 17.

To Mr. and Mrs. William Mimbu, a boy, David, on Feb. 10 in Madison, Wis.

To Mr. and Mrs. Eige Uyeda, 26-9-D, Rivers, a boy on Feb. 6.

To Mr. and Mrs. Masami Hanamoto, 16-3-C, Rivers, a boy on Feb. 15.

To Mr. and Mrs. Fumie Nakahara, 3806-AB, Tule Lake, a girl on Feb. 5.

To Mr. and Mrs. Morimitsu Uyeda, 2504-C, Tule Lake, a boy on Feb. 6.

To Mr. and Mrs. Masao Hiura, 1307-A2, Tule Lake, a girl on Feb. 6.

To Mr. and Mrs. Masato Tokunaga, 8115-E, Tule Lake, a girl on Feb. 6.

To Mr. and Mrs. Fujio Matsuyama, 6903-A, Tule Lake, a girl on Feb. 6.

To Mr. and Mrs. Yoshio Kitajima, 7901-DE, Tule Lake, a girl on Feb. 8.

To Mr. and Mrs. Utsushi Mitoma, 606-C, Tule Lake, a girl on Feb. 8.

To Mr. and Mrs. Toranosuke Fujita, 8114-D, Tule Lake, a boy on Feb. 10.

To Mr. and Mrs. Masaaki Yokota, 4411-D, Tule Lake, a girl on Feb. 11.

To Mr. and Mrs. Yutaka Shinohara, 5417-E, Tule Lake, a boy on Feb. 11.

To Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin T. Matsura, 5-13-D, Rivers, a girl on Feb. 9.

To Mr. and Mrs. Toshiaki Suminaga, 45-3-A, Rivers, a boy on Feb. 10.

To Mr. and Mrs. Eiichi Arita, 6G-9E, Granada, a girl on Feb. 9.

To Mr. and Mrs. Akira Komai, 7K-7D, Granada, a girl on Feb. 14.

To Mr. and Mrs. George Nishikawa, 6F-9C, Granada, a boy on Feb. 17.

To Mr. and Mrs. Masaichi Tsuchimoto, 2-13-F, Poston, a girl on Feb. 10.

To Mr. and Mrs. Takeo Toyama, 329-5-D, Poston, a girl on Feb. 9.

To Mr. and Mrs. Saishichi Yoshimi, a girl on Feb. 12 at Newell, Calif.

To Mr. and Mrs. Haruno Itow, a girl on Feb. 12 at Newell.

To Mr. and Mrs. Satoru Miyamoto, a boy on Feb. 12 at Newell.

To Mr. and Mrs. Yukiji Mukoda, a girl on Feb. 13 at Newell.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hiroto Yamaguchi, a boy on Feb. 13 at Newell.

To Mr. and Mrs. Masahi Takehara, a boy on Feb. 13 at Newell.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kazuo Sakamoto, a boy on Feb. 14 at Newell.

To Mr. and Mrs. Yoshizo Tani, a girl on Feb. 14 at Newell.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kichiro Takizawa, a boy on Feb. 16 at Newell.

To Mr. and Mrs. Nobuki Wakabayashi, a boy on Feb. 16 at Newell.

To Mr. and Mrs. Sei Kageyama, a girl on Feb. 16 at Newell.

To Mr. and Mrs. Nakamoto, a boy on Feb. 17 at Newell.

To Mr. and Mrs. Shigemi Idemoto, a girl on Feb. 17 at Newell.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kiyoshi Ito, a boy on Feb. 17 at Newell.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hideo Ashida, a girl at Blanca, Colo.

To Mr. and Mrs. George K. Uyeda, a girl at Denver, Colo.

### DEATHS

Ritsu Otomo, 56, of 2-6-D, Heart Mountain, on Feb. 20.

Motokichi Hirahara, 70, of 21-19-D, Heart Mountain, on Feb. 21.

Tsuchiichi Fujishige of 74-4-B, Gila River, on Feb. 14.

Kakuichi Watabayashi, 66, of 5213-E, Tule Lake, on Feb. 10.

Ichimatsu Kakimoto of 54-3-B, Rivers, on Feb. 8.

Kumakichi Funinami of 33-1-C, Rivers, on Feb. 10.

Itsuji Yoshinasa of 4-14-C, Rivers, on Feb. 11.

Infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs.

## A BABY CRIED

It was in the good old days that business took me from time to time to the home of my good friends, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Yoshioka, of Seattle.

On one of these occasions I heard the youngest in the family, Tomi, crying in the bedroom. I thought, I cannot tell from the crying that she is Japanese. It is just like any other baby. A few days later this crystallized into the following poem:

*A baby cried.  
I could not tell  
If it were black or white.  
I only knew  
That it could yell  
And keep its dad up half the night.*

*A baby laughed.  
I heard it coo.  
It might be brown or red.  
I heard its mother laughing, too.  
Not much more need be said.*

*Except that we  
Can scarcely know  
If color is worth while  
For who has seen a baby, show  
Its color in its smile.*

U. G. Moore,  
Seattle, Washington.

## Hawaiian Nisei Soldiers Meet New WACs from Home Islands

### Earl Finch Throws Party for Hawaiian Trainees in Deep South

CAMP SHELBY, Miss. — The Hawaiian Serenaders of the 171st Infantry Battalion, Sep., a unit of American soldiers of Japanese ancestry in training at Camp Shelby returned last week after spending their furlough by entertaining wounded combat veterans at the Northington General Hospital in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

One of the features of the trip made by these Japanese American GI musicians from Hawaii, and arranged by Earl M. Finch of Hattiesburg, Miss., was the meeting of these Hawaiian GIs with the first contingent of WAC volunteers from Hawaii who are now in training at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga.

Tech. 4th Gr. Robert Terauchi, one of the Serenaders, related the highlights of the meeting with the Hawaiian WACs, among whom are a number of women of Japanese ancestry:

"Although the WACs were restricted from passes since they

Shimpei Miyake of 8K-1F, Granada, stillborn, Feb. 8.

Mrs. Tsuna Nakamura, 61, of 8E-3A, Granada, on Feb. 18.

Infant son of Mr. and Mrs. George Kawamura, 7E-9F, Granada, on Feb. 18.

Gonshiro Tomita, 66, on Feb. 13 at Newell, Calif.

Matsu Uratsu, 61, on Feb. 15 at Newell, Calif.

### MARRIAGES

Fujie Maehara to James Nakagawa on Feb. 10 in Ann Arbor, Mich.

Lily Kusama to Sgt. George Teruo Kagawa on Feb. 21 in Rohwer.

Shizuko Taketa to Kaoru Shintaku on Feb. 22 in Rohwer.

Yukino Nakano to Shigeyuki Eto on Feb. 22 in Rohwer.

Mona Saito to Yosh Mukai in Twin Falls, Idaho.

Kimiko Suyematsu to Tom Kamo on Ontario, Ore., on Feb. 17.

Hanako Kato to Kiyoshi Maketa on Jan. 30 at Tule Lake.

Misuye Nakamori to Norimasa Tamura on Feb. 3 at Tule Lake.

Fumi Katsura to Akira Watanabe on Feb. 5 at Tule Lake.

Kanako Sakai to George Hiro-michi Kawata on Feb. 9 at Tule Lake.

Mary Tsuda to Shoji Nasaka on Feb. 9 at Tule Lake.

Lillian Yoshie Okamoto to Hideto Okamura on Feb. 3 at Rivers.

Yoshiko Tamada to Al Ichiro Kataoka on Feb. 9 at Rivers.

Kazuko Goto to Rokusuke Ken Kurose on Feb. 12 at Rivers.

Hasuko Yamauchi to Pvt. Masashi Watanuki on Feb. 3 at Fort Snelling, Minn.

Kiyoko Morimoto to Jiro Tani on Feb. 1 at Syracuse, Kansas.

### MARRIAGE LICENSES

Grace Hamai and Shirow Uyeno at Denver, Colo.

Konami Aoki and Munee J. Hatae at Denver, Colo.

Kiyo Ikeda and Paul H. Yamamoto at Denver, Colo.

were new arrivals, Mr. Finch arranged to have ten of the girls have supper with us at the hotel, the choice being left to lady luck and a lottery system. The girls were already seated when we entered the dining room, as we were a little late. What a racket we made when we met for the first time—a typical Hawaiian greeting. Other patrons must have been bewildered by it all. For the next hour, questions flew back and forth and throughout it all, the frequent comment, 'there is no place like Hawaii,' could be heard. "Knowing we like 'sashimi,' (raw fish), Mr. Finch had some prepared for us, and everything was just perfect.

"Of course we mustn't fail to mention our first impression of our WACs from Hawaii. Frankly, they look 'swell' in uniform, or in the Army slang, they looked 'sharp.' As the boys in the 100th and 442nd Infantry, their first complaint is of the climate here on the mainland which is so different from Hawaii's. It gets extremely damp and cold during the winter time, and during the summer (they haven't felt it yet), the thermometer sometimes registers from 100 to 125 degrees.

"After supper we went to the Fort to meet the rest of the girls. The first words that we heard as we entered the Service Club was, 'Aloha' and 'Hey, how long we wait for you guys!' There again was another 'Pupule' (crazy) House. All of the girls were asking which islands we were from and if we know certain people back home, etc. A program for the evening was pre-arranged and the girls started the show with their vocal and hula numbers as we accompanied them with the musical back-ground. It was like home again, and very pleasing to the eyes, especially those genuine hula dances performed by a real hula girl. The show being an informal one, we spoke in 'Hapa-Kanaka' (Pidgin English) all the way, and the 'Haole' (White) audience had a hard time trying to understand the lingo. Our own S/Sgt. Ken Okamoto did a hula duet with Evelina Gunderson, one of the WACs from Hawaii. The dance was a sensation, and they made a wonderful team.

"The girls were very excited for they were to receive their first passes to town since their arrival at Fort Oglethorpe. Although we would have liked to have stayed and 'do the town' with the girls, we were unable to do so as we had an engagement to play at the Northington General Hospital near Tuscaloosa, Alabama, that same night.

"At the Northington General Hospital, we met boys of the 100th and 442nd Infantry who have returned from the front and are at present receiving treatment there. Some of those that we met were: Pvt. Satoru Kato, Pvt. Yoshimoto Ino, and many others whose names I can't remember.

"The trip was long and tiresome, and much work had to be done in preparing the program but it was worth it to see the smiles on the faces of our wounded men as we sang and danced our native songs. They liked it

## Eleven Students Accepted by U of California

### Will Begin Studies At Berkeley School With Spring Term

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif. — Eleven Japanese Americans from the Central Utah relocation center at Topaz, Utah, have been accepted for enrollment at the University of California, and one evacuee student has been accepted by San Francisco Junior College for the spring term beginning March 1, the War Relocation Authority announced Feb. 26.

All but one of the twelve are graduates of the high school at the Topaz camp, and all maintained scholastic averages of 90 or above and were active in extracurricular activities. Three of the prospective students, one of them an honorably discharged war veteran, are transfers to the University of California from other universities.

The students who have been accepted are:

Seiko Akahoshi, 17, formerly of Oakland, January graduate and student body treasurer at Topaz high school.

Marion Oishi, 19, of Oakland, sophomore transfer from the University of New Hampshire.

Juro Hayashida, 17, Berkeley, treasurer of the graduating class and leader of the young people's church group at Topaz.

Seichi Kami, 21, graduate of Berkeley high school in 1941.

The following are from San Francisco:

Yutaka Yoshida, 17, business manager of the Topaz high year book; Shigeru Ishihara, 17, valedictorian of the January, 1945, graduating class at Topaz high; Teiko Hishima, 19, secretary to the Topaz superintendent of schools; Etsuko Honnami, 18, Mary Tamaki, 17; Miyeko Takita, 20, sophomore transfer from the University of Montana; Yoshi Takakuwa, 19, high school assistant football coach at Topaz after his honorable discharge from the Army.

San Francisco JC will enroll Robert Ozawa, 18, of San Francisco, president of the Topaz high school class of January, 1945.

## JACL Credit Union Elects Officers At Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the National JACL Credit Union was held on Feb. 25 in Salt Lake City at the YWCA.

The following officers were elected to various positions in the Credit Union: Kenji Kawaguchi and Yukus Inouye, 3-year terms on board of directors; Ichiro Doi, 3-year term in supervisory committee; and, Henry Masuda, one-year term, and James M. Yamamoto, 3-year term, on the credit committee.

Hito Okada, treasurer of the Credit Union, read a financial report.

Motion pictures of relocation centers and Japanese American soldiers in action overseas were shown.

## Mrs. Nakamura Speaks On Nisei in War

BRIDGETON, N. J.—"Japanese Americans in the War Effort" was the topic of the talk given by Ayako Noguchi Nakamura at the anniversary meeting of the Women's Society of Christian Service at the Wesley Methodist Church in Bridgeton on Jan. 29. Over 30 members heard the talk and took part in the fourth anniversary program of the Society with Mrs. Dorothy Robinson in charge.

Other organizations which have heard Mrs. Nakamura in recent months include the Soroptimist club in Vineland, N. J., the South Jersey Social Workers club at the County hospital, and the P.T.A. of the Deerfield Grammar school.

The speaker is with the Personnel relations department at Seabrook Farms which employs over 600 Japanese Americans.

vrey much,—we could tell by their faces."—Pau.

Members of the 171st Inf. Bn., Sep., Hawaiian Serenaders are: T/Sgt. Toshihiko Horio, Co. D; T/Sgt. Robert Shimabuku, Hq. Co.; S/Sgt. Kenneth Okamoto, Co. B; T/4 Frank Suzuki, Medics; and T/4 Robert Terauchi, Hq. Co.



# Land Grab Seen as Basis for Hood River's Discrimination

Oregon Group Wants Land Owned by Nisei, Says New York Paper

NEW YORK — The New York newspaper, PM, declared on Feb. 25 in a full-page report from Charles A. Michie, member of the paper's Washington staff, that the citizens of Hood River, Ore., who oppose the return of evacuees of Japanese ancestry "want the land the Nisei own because it is good, valuable land — money in the bank."

In its special feature titled, "Three Plague Spots Within a Democracy," PM reported that "inhabitants of three isolated plague spots" on the West Coast are "ruthlessly resisting efforts of American citizens to take possession of their own homes."

PM listed the "plague spots" as Placer County, Calif., Hood River, Clackamas and Multnomah counties in Oregon and the White River Valley in Washington.

The New York newspaper reproduced an advertisement from the Hood River, Ore., Sun of Feb. 2, 1945, which threatened Americans of Japanese extraction who plan to return to their agricultural properties in Hood River Valley.

The Hood River Sun ad, signed by Kent Shoemaker, a leader of the agitation against the Japanese Americans, listed the names of

residents of Japanese ancestry who resided in Hood River valley until the evacuation and noted the holdings of each property-owning family.

"You Japs listed on this page have been told by some that you would be welcome back in Hood River. That is not true, and this is the best time you will ever have to dispose of your property," the Hood River Sun ad declared.

"The White River Valley area hasn't had the publicity which Hood River got when it erased the memorial names but the same kind of economic pressure is being exerted against home-coming relocatees there," the PM writer declared.

## Legal Aid Societies Will Assist Evacuees

WASHINGTON—More than 60 Legal Aid Societies throughout the country will cooperate with WRA in assisting Americans of Japanese ancestry who are unable to employ the services of a lawyer, the National Association of Legal Aid Organizations announced in a statement unanimously adopted at a recent meeting of its Executive Committee.

Member organizations have been advised of the resolution and encouraged to offer their services accordingly, the statement declares. Services of some non-member cooperating groups also will be made available to evacuees.

The services of these voluntary organizations covers both advice and representation in court for all types of civil matters.

Relocation officers have been instructed to maintain contact with the Legal Aid Society in each area, to develop sound relationships which will be beneficial to evacuees.

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# War Veterans Support Right Of Nisei Evacuees to Return

SEATTLE — War veterans who are now students at Seattle College last week defended the War Department's action permitting evacuees of Japanese ancestry to return to the Seattle area.

The men who offered opinions are members of the Seattle College Veterans' Club, composed of veterans of World War II.

A typical opinion was offered by Don Mayer, a former Army private who said: "After seeing action in Africa and Italy, I didn't expect to come back and find such things as race hatred."

Otto Vogeler, former Navy seaman, said: "We're trying to teach the rest of the world the lessons of tolerance and liberty. If we are going to be successful in this, we must learn and practice these lessons ourselves."

"They have earned the right to come back," Remi Muyliaert, former Navy radar technician, added.

"I think the Japanese should be allowed to return," Dick Schindelle, former junior engineer in the merchant marine, said. "The Japanese Americans serving in our armed forces are as loyal as the whites, and their mortality rate per unit is often higher."

Bernard Costello, formerly of the Canadian Army, said he was "speaking as an outsider," but declared it seemed to him that the American spirit as such should recognize the rights of Japanese American citizens.

"The question involved," he explained, "is one of rights, not of likes or dislikes."

Herbert Hoover, president of the club and former master sergeant in the Medical Corps, said that "for their own good," the evacuees should not return at present "but wait until some of the bigoted citizens of the Northwest have been reeducated in the ways of democracy."

John Connally, who served in the Naval Air Service, opposed the return of the evacuees at the present time, while Bernard Siefert, who served as a Navy seaman for two years, believed that the evacuees should be allowed to return.

## Cited for Bravery

POSTON, Ariz.—Pfc. Henry N. Shibata of Poston, Arizona, has been cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct while serving with Lt. Gen. Mark Clark's Fifth army in Italy, the Chronicle revealed recently.

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# Hood River Action Hit by Legion Group

District of Columbia Council Condemns Oregon Post's Stand

SAN FRANCISCO — Further protest against the action of the Hood River post of the American Legion in erasing the names of 16 Japanese American soldiers from its county honor roll has been made by the Department of the District of Columbia, American Legion, it was revealed on Feb. 26 by Robert B. Cozzens, assistant director of the War Relocation Authority.

Mr. Cozzens, a member of the Legion, received a copy of the resolution adopted by the District of Columbia Legion Council, censuring the Hood River post, and a similar resolution adopted by the Department of Justice Post of the Legion in Washington.

The action of the Hood River post was condemned by both Legion organizations "as contrary to the ideals of Americanism, as inconsistent with the doctrines of democracy, and as repugnant to the principles of the American Legion."

## Nisei Soldier Serves with PW Unit in Italy

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Italy—Pvt. Harry H. Oda, brother of Edward T. Oda of Topaz, Utah, is serving as a clerk in the German section of the U. S. Army's 152nd Military Police Prisoner of War Processing Platoon, a unit in Allied Force Headquarters.

Pvt. Oda was wounded in action with the 442nd Infantry Combat Team in Italy and was transferred to the 152nd M. P. unit after recovering from his wounds.

(Topaz reports stated that Edward Oda, 23, the only brother mentioned in the Army report on Pvt. Harry Oda, died at the Topaz hospital last week of illness.)

# PARKER STORES SEEK BUSINESS FROM POSTON

POSTON, Ariz.—Evacuees and appointed personnel at the Colorado River relocation center at Poston have received an official letter of invitation signed by businessmen and other interested citizens of the nearby community of Parker, Ariz., inviting them to do business in the town.

The letter stressed that the businessmen of Parker bear no ill will against the people of Poston and adds that they are desirous of accepting whatever business the evacuees wish to offer them.

The letter suggested the setting up of a commercial bus line between the two communities.

(Parker, Ariz., was recently in the news when a Parker barber refused service to a wounded serviceman of Japanese ancestry.)

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## Sacramento Committee Raps Placer Anti-Nisei Proposal

SACRAMENTO — The Sacramento Council for Civic Unity this week went on record protesting a resolution adopted by the California Preservation association which requests legislation to require every American citizen of Japanese ancestry to prove his parents were born in the United States or entered the country legally.

In a communication to the California Preservation Association, the Council for Civic Unity suggested a study of the United States Constitution will reveal that the anti-evacuee group's proposal would not be legal.

The Council for Civic Unity's statement concludes:

"The Council for Civic Unity urges members of the preservation society to refresh their memories, to read through the fundamental American documents, upon which the rights of citizenship are founded. They will discover that the law of the land is the same for all American-born citizens, whether their parents came from Japan or China or Germany or the North Pole. Any attempt to set up artificial tests or barriers against one group would lead to a breakdown of the American way of life and the creation of a Fascist system in its place.

"We call upon all those who thoughtlessly endorsed this petition to Congress to disavow it and to join with us and with all American citizens of good will to weld together to unify and unite our citizenry in the interest of national strength and solidarity."

## Negro Troops Entertain Evacuees at Poston

POSTON, Ariz.—With one officer, thirty servicemen and six WACs, a Negro troupe from Fort Huachuca, Ariz., put on a program of entertainment for a capacity crowd at the Unit II Cottonwood Bowl on Feb. 23.

The special program, staged in recognition of Negro History Week, was made possible through the efforts and courtesy of Col. F. E. Nelson, Post Commander Edwin Hardy of Fort Huachuca and the Ninth Service Command at Fort Douglas.

The troupe also appeared before capacity audiences in Poston Units I and III.

## Anti-Evacuee Signs Put in Shop Windows

**Demand Nisei Prove Parents Entered Country Legally**

AUBURN, Calif.—Since its inception five weeks ago, the California Preservation association, formerly known as the Placer County Anti-Japanese League, has succeeded in having placed in nearly every shop window in Auburn a sign which says "we do not solicit Japanese trade," the United Press reported.

The U. P. story said the organization was formed under sponsorship of the Donner post 1942 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

The California Preservation association last week forwarded to their congressman, Rep. Clair Engle, a suggestion for federal legislation requiring Americans of Japanese ancestry to prove that their parents entered this country legally.

Every citizen of Japanese ancestry, under the proposal, would be required to furnish proof "that his or her parents either were born here or entered this country legally with the express intent of severing all citizenship ties with their native land."

The resolution failed to recommend to whom the proofs should be furnished or what action should be taken against persons unable to conform to requirements of the proposals, the United Press story noted.

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## WYOMING LAW BARS EVACUEES FROM FISHING

CHEYENNE, Wyo. — Persons of Japanese ancestry relocated in Wyoming because of the war may no longer buy hunting and fishing licenses and permits, according to a measure signed on Feb. 16 by Governor Lester C. Hunt.

The provision was on the end of a House bill regarding fees for hunting and fishing licenses. Its sponsors frankly admitted the bill was aimed at persons of Japanese ancestry relocated at the Heart Mountain WRA center, located in one of Wyoming's best hunting and fishing territories.

## House Committee Fails to Act on Johnson Proposal

WASHINGTON — The House Appropriations committee concluded its hearing on plans of the War Relocation Authority to close its relocation centers without acting on a proposal by Rep. Johnson, D., Oklahoma, to sterilize all aliens of Japanese ancestry in segregation or internment centers.

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## Idaho Rules Nisei Children Eligible for Free Schooling

## Legion Leaders Rap Stand of VFW Official

**Fraschetti Had Protested Use of Blood Donated By Japanese Americans**

BOSTON, Mass. — Strong protests have been registered in Boston against the statement of Charles Fraschetti, Massachusetts commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars, who protested against the use by the Red Cross of Blood donated by Americans of Japanese ancestry.

Commander C. J. Farley of the Edwards - Quimby post, American Legion, in West Acton, Mass., declared himself "shocked" by Fraschetti's statement, and urged its retraction.

"It's easy enough for me to go to the blood bank, I'm just another Yankee," Farley said, "but it took real courage for this group to go and run the gauntlet of questioning, if not hostile, eyes. They went, so the account goes, 'because it was the right thing to do.' Not all other citizens who can have found it 'the thing to do.'"

Thomas F. Mackey, State commander of the American Legion, stated: "What of it? They gave their blood as loyal Americans do. . . . The whole thing was given too much publicity in the first place."

## Post-War Problems Discussed by Murray Chapter of JACL

MURRAY, Utah — Vital issues which face American citizens in the post-war period were discussed by Principal V. Mortenson of Murray high school before the Feb. 21 meeting of the Mount Olympus chapter of the JACL.

Mr. Mortenson laid special stress on problems faced in employment and by returning servicemen and Japanese Americans. The cast for a three-act play to be presented by the JACL group in March was chosen by Gwen Colton.

The chapter membership drive was inaugurated and the deadline for membership renewals was set for April 1.

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BOISE, Idaho — Reversing a former ruling, Attorney General Frank Langley held on Feb. 21 that evacuees of Japanese ancestry who have settled in Idaho under their own free will are entitled to send their children to the public schools of the State of Idaho without payment of tuition.

Langley's opinion was sought by G. C. Sullivan, state superintendent of public instruction, as a followup to two previous opinions that children of Japanese ancestry who moved to Idaho with their parents after the West Coast evacuation must pay tuition.

Langley held the situation was changed now that the exclusion order was revoked.

"We know of no legal objections to persons of Japanese descent establishing residence in this state," Langley told Sullivan, "and by reason of such residence they are entitled to send their children to the public schools without paying tuition."

The earlier opinions were delivered by the former Attorney General, Bert H. Miller, now a justice of the State Supreme Court.

## Evacuees Seek To Regain Home From Tenants

OREGON CITY, Ore. — The first legal tangle created in Clackamas county by the return of persons of Japanese ancestry to the area was started in the circuit court of Clackamas on February 26.

Attorneys for Masayuki Fujimoto filed an action against Dale and Lorene Bergh to regain possession of a farm dwelling, barn, pump house and other buildings on property located near Boring.

(Dale Bergh has been mentioned in news reports as being prominent in the organization of Oregon Anti-Japanese, Inc., an organization formed to prevent the return of persons of Japanese ancestry to the Clackamas area.)

It is claimed that Fujimoto's property is held illegally by the Berghs who allege that they are occupying the property under a lease from the alien property custodian.

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