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Nisei Aid Psychological Warfare in Pacific

People of West Coast Will Not Long Tolerate Racist Attacks On Nisei, Says Secretary Ickes

Government "Owes Unmistakable Obligation" To Aid Reestablishment of Evacuees Wherever They Choose to Settle, Says Interior Chief

WASHINGTON—Interior Secretary Harold L. Ickes expressed confidence in a statement April 4 that people of the West Coast will not tolerate for long any campaigns of "economic greed and ruthless racial persecution" against Japanese Americans seeking to return to their former homes, the Associated Press reported. Ickes reiterated, however, in a letter to C. C. Schneider of Gresham, Ore., secretary of the Oregon Property Owners Protective League (OPOPL), that the War Relocation

Authority is encouraging the displaced Japanese American population to locate elsewhere than the Pacific Coast. The letter was made public in Washington by Senator Guy C. Cordon, R., Ore., who recently publicized an earlier letter from Secretary Ickes in which the latter outlined the government's policy of urging the evacuees to relocate in the Midwest and East.

Referring to evacuees who still own homes and property in the West, Ickes said he believes the government "owes the unmistakable obligation" to aid them in becoming reestablished wherever they choose to settle.

"To ignore or repudiate this obligation would be not only inhumane but morally offensive in the eyes of democratic minded peoples throughout the world.

"For this reason, I have been profoundly disturbed by the activities of certain unprincipled groups in Oregon, Washington and California which are seeking, by illegal means, to nullify the decision of the War Department and prevent the return of the evacuees to their rightful homes when they want to return.

"I realize that these groups represent only a small minority of the population of your state and of the other coastal states, but their campaigns of undisguised economic greed and ruthless racial persecution, have shocked and outraged good Americans in every section of the nation. I am confident that their plans and stratagems will not long be tolerated by the overwhelming majority of straight-thinking and fundamentally decent people in the three Pacific states."

California Senate Wants U. S. to Pay For Evacuee Return

SACRAMENTO — The State Senate's local government committee last week adopted a resolution calling on the Federal government to assume full financial responsibility for the return of persons of Japanese ancestry to California.

Senator Ed Fletcher of San Diego, author of the resolution, cited War Relocation Authority figures reportedly showing 55 per cent of the adult Japanese population are indigent and likely to become public charges on their return to California.

"I believe it is the duty of the United States government," Fletcher declared, "to pay any and all costs of the counties or the state caused by their return."

San Francisco WRA Office Hires Nisei

SAN FRANCISCO — The War Relocation Authority office in San Francisco has hired Noriko Sawada, 22, to work as receptionist, district relocation officer Fred W. Ross announced last week.

She will be on duty at the WRA's office at 406 Sutter Street. Miss Sawada was formerly stationed in the Poston relocation center and attended a business college in Santa Ana before the evacuation.

Elderly Evacuee Returns Home to Chinese Friends

ROHWER, Ark. — Jusuke Takemoto, 78, an evacuee of Japanese ancestry at the Rohwer relocation center, is en route home to Lodi, Calif., to reside again with Chinese friends with whom he lived for 35 years before Pearl Harbor.

The WRA announced the aged evacuee is being returned to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Yip, who have sent him money for the return trip.

Takemoto spent five months at the Stockton assembly center before he was transferred to the Arkansas camp and the Chinese family has kept in touch with him ever since.

Approve Fund For Land Law Prosecutions

California Senate Committee Backs Appropriations Bill

SACRAMENTO — The Senate Judiciary Committee last week approved a grant of \$200,000 to the Attorney General's office for the prosecution of violations of the state's anti-alien land law.

The committee also recommended a measure allowing the state to bring escheat actions against cases of violations extending over the past twenty years.

The Attorney General's office, in cooperation with county authorities, have instituted escheat proceedings against farmers of Japanese ancestry in San Diego, Los Angeles, Monterey, Fresno and San Joaquin counties.

Only 107 Evacuees Have Left Granada For Coast Homes

AMACHE, Colo. — Only 107 evacuees have left the Granada relocation center to return to former homes on the West Coast since the lifting of the exclusion order on Jan. 2, Project Director James G. Lindley reported on March 29.

During this period, however, 327 others have relocated in the East and Midwest. About 95 per cent of those leaving Granada are family groups, or family heads, whose family members will follow as soon as housing is available.

Twenty-two individuals recently went to Walla Walla, Wash., to do farm work, and eighteen others have obtained employment at a country club near Chicago.

Lindley said the relocation center will be closed sometime before Jan. 1, 1945, but no definite date has been set as yet.

Ten Japanese Americans Die, Seven Wounded in Recent Action on Western Front

WASHINGTON—The Office of War Information this week identified 10 American soldiers of Japanese ancestry killed, seven wounded and one prisoner of war on the European front.

The casualties listed next of kin on the United States mainland and Hawaii. (Some of the names listed have been published previously in the Pacific Citizen on the basis of information received from next of kin.)

Killed in Action

KARATSU, Sgt. James S.—John U. Karatsu, father, 10H-7E, Amache, Colo.
SAKAMOTO, Sgt. Masa—Miss Susie Sakamoto, sister, 7F-3F, Amache, Colo.

TERRITORY OF HAWAII

KOKAME, Staff Sgt. Nobuo—Iso Kokame, father, Box 77, Waimea, Kauai.
KUBO, Tech. 5th Gr. Tadashi—Mrs. Setsu Kubo, mother, Wailuku, Maui.
NODA, Pfc. Sueo—Mrs. Michiko Kimizuka, sister, Box 119, Kahului, Maui.
TSUNEMATSU, Pfc. Bertram A.—Masao Tsunematsu, Box 527, Waialua, Oahu.
SUGAWARA, Staff Sgt. Senji—Takeo Sugawara, brother, Box 345, Waimea, Kauai.
SUZAWA, Pfc. Jiro—Mrs. Shizu Suzawa, mother, Honokohua, Maui.
KANESHIRO, Pfc. Seichi — Biche Kaneshiro, father, 45 Mamo St., Hilo, Hawaii.
MASUMOTO, Cpl. Noriyuki—Mrs. Nobuko Ikeno, 1489 S. King St., Honolulu.

Wounded in Action

TADAKUMA, Sgt. Hiroshi—Mr. and Mrs. Shigeki Tadakuma, parents, 8K-3B, Amache, Colo.
MIZUNO, Cpl. Yoshikazu T.—Mrs. Katherine K. Mizuno, wife, 11G-9F, Amache, Colo.
NISHI, Tech. Sgt. Masakazu—Masajiro Nishi, father, Rohwer WRA camp, McGhee, Ark.
HORIYAMA, Pfc. Tamotsu—Yasuzo Hirai, uncle, 47-9-D, Gila River WRA, Rivers, Ariz.
ADANIYA, Staff Sgt. Seigi — Mrs. Ushi Adaniya, Ewa, Oahu, T. H.
AKI, Pvt. Moses T.—Mrs. Isabella Aki, Box 307, Lanikai, Oahu, T. H.
KUMABE, Pfc. Noboru—Miss Eleanor M. Kumabe, sister, Box 34, Hanapepe, Kauai.

Prisoner of War — Germany

SASAKA, Staff Sgt. Itsumi — Masaru Sasaoka, brother, Waipahu, Oahu, T. H.

Japanese Americans Man Some Of Important Battle Stations In U. S. Propaganda Offensive

New York Times Article Lifts Curtain on Work Of Persons of Japanese Ancestry for OWI; War On Air Waves Stepped Up in Recent Months

NEW YORK CITY—Some of the most important "battle stations" in radio's psychological warfare against the Japanese people are entrusted to a little group of men of Japanese descent straggling back to the West Coast under Army authority, Lawrence E. Davies reported from San Francisco in a special dispatch printed April 1, in the New York Times.

They are members of the OWI office in San Francisco, Nisei and Kibei. Special mention is made of the Kibei by John

E. Fields, chief of the Japan division of the OWI's overseas branch, who said that operating without Kibei would be impossible.

"The real language of the Nisei is English," he explained. "They haven't met the situations in daily life that they would face in Japan. The Kibei have."

Heading the growing staff of specialists who translate and "voice" many hours of daily broadcasts to Japan, says Davies, is Takehiko Yoshihashi, who collaborated in writing the latest faculty textbooks on the Japanese language.

Not long after an armada of B-29s drops its load on Tokyo, Japanese listeners in Formosa and elsewhere in the Far East have the news, even if Japanese stations black out the details. And news travels fast by word of mouth among the Japanese.

The war on the air waves has been stepped up vastly since late 1944, Davies reveals. Until the first of the year the Office of War Information had to rely upon shortwave broadcasts to get its news and propaganda into Japan. But by January the OWI had an opportunity to reach beyond Japanese officialdom, owners of most of the shortwave sets. It got into operation on Saipan a new medium-wave broadcasting station and, at the same time, the army and the Supreme Court lowered the bars to permit return to the West Coast of persons of Japanese ancestry who are adjudged loyal to the United States.

The first step, says the New York Times article, gives the OWI millions of potential listeners instead of hundreds. There is good reason to believe that Japan has more than six million licensed standard receiving sets.

The second development means that the OWI's staff of Japanese editors and translators, which had operated in Denver since the West Coast evacuation in the spring of 1942, now is moving back to San Francisco as fast as housing can be found. This solves technical problems and speeds up the propaganda war.

Formerly the programs to be broadcast from West Coast shortwave stations to Japan were written in English in this city, teletyped to Denver, translated into Japanese there, "voiced" and "piped" back to San Francisco and then beamed to the Far East.

In spite of this awkward setup, Mr. Yoshihashi sometimes furnished San Francisco with the translations of a long communique within an hour after its issuance in the Pacific.

"We have a crack translation staff," he told Davies. "I don't believe you could get together another group of similar size anywhere in the country of equal caliber. One has to be almost a craftsman of language to translate into Japanese."

Staff members include a mining engineer who specializes in broadcasts dealing with science, a hydraulic engineer, an atomic expert, a man studying for the priesthood, a professor and a newspaper man.

The San Francisco office now shortwaves four hours of daily programs to the Honolulu office

headed by Bradford Smith, which relays them to Saipan and sends two more hours of programs originated in Honolulu. Saipan thus has six hours of programs at its disposal, which it trains on the Japanese listeners by medium wave from 6 p.m. till midnight (Japan time) daily.

"We show them," Mr. Fields said, "that this country is not simply thinking about winning the war, but that we know the war is won, and are thinking about the postwar treatment of Japan. We believe some progress has been made since the opening of the Saipan station, otherwise why would Japanese radio stations ask their listeners to shut off their radios when Tokyo and other transmitters shut down for the night around 10:15? Why wouldn't the Japanese set owners automatically shut them off without that request?"

REPORT THREE HURT IN ACTION ON WEST FRONT

Three Americans of Japanese ancestry were wounded and one was reported a prisoner of war, according to information received by next of kin in war relocation centers last week.

Wounded in Action

T/SGT. MASAKAZU NISHI, 25, (Hanford, Calif.), son of Mr. and Mrs. Masajiro Nishi, 10-10-F, Rohwer, wounded for third time on March 7 during drive on Germany. Sgt. Nishi was first wounded in July in Italy and suffered another wound in France in October.

SGT. HIROSHI TADAKUMA, 21, (Los Angeles), son of Mr. and Mrs. Shigeki Tadakuma, of Granada, wounded in action for the third time in France. Winner of the Silver Star for gallantry in action, Sgt. Tadakuma was previously wounded on Oct. 17 and Nov. 1 in France. He was last reported seriously wounded in February.

PVT. MITSUO KAWAMOTO, 23, son of Mr. and Mrs. Saburo Kawamoto, 12F-2D, Granada, wounded in action in France on Dec. 9.

Prisoner-of-War

PVT. GEORGETAKAHASHI, 24, (Artesia, Calif.) son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenji Takahashi of 9-1-C, Rohwer, reported a prisoner of war in Germany by the War Department. He was reported missing in October.

Filipino Legionnaires Oppose Return of Japanese Americans

SACRAMENTO—J. L. Canseco, commander of the Magellan post No. 604 of the American Legion, announced last week the post at a recent meeting unanimously adopted a resolution opposing the return of persons of Japanese ancestry to the Pacific Coast.

The Magellan post, which is composed of ex-servicemen of Filipino ancestry, recently was granted a charter by the Legion.

3rd Battalion of Combat Team Recently Engaged in Difficult Warfare in Maritime Alps

WITH THE SIXTH ARMY GROUP, FRANCE—Still contributing to the impressive record of the 442nd Infantry Regiment, the 3rd Battalion of this Japanese American unit was recently engaged in difficult warfare in the French Alps.

Along the France-Italian border—southern sector of Lt. Gen. Jacob L. Devers' Sixth Army Group—the battalion demonstrated its ability in patrol tactics and all-round skill as a fighting unit. With many months of intense mountain fighting in Italy and the French Vosges behind it, the battalion augmented that skill with experience.

Previously, these Japanese Americans sparked an Allied drive which had bogged down after the Seventh Army's sensational sweep through Southern and Eastern France. The 3rd Battalion captured an important gate-way in the Vosges Mountains. Later in this sector, it took part in the breaking of a fanatically-defended German position, a stretch of railroad fronting a wooded hill. A task force, composed of two rifle companies of the 2nd and 3rd Battalions, swung around to an enemy flank and crept through 2½ miles of enemy territory. At dawn, coordinating their surprise attack with a renewed frontal assault, they routed the Germans and broke a stalemate that threatened to hold up the entire American advance in that sector. Over 400 Germans were killed, 95 captured and large quantities of enemy material seized by the task force.

Among the most courageous actions of the 3rd Battalion is the dramatic rescue of the 36th Division's "Lost Battalion" which was first reached by elements of the 3rd.

Fifty awards, ranging from the Distinguished Service Cross to the Bronze Star, have been awarded members of the 3rd, most of them for action in Italy. Over 200 such awards are pending for action in France. Four division citations have also been awarded.

Rohwer Residents Will Hold Solemn Rites on VE-Day

ROHWER, Ark.—Believing that victory in Europe is now only a matter of time, authorities at this war relocation center last week announced tentative plans for the camp's observance of VE-Day.

If news of the final victory is received between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m., the announcement will be made by simultaneous blowing of bugles throughout the center, it was stated. When the bugle call begins, every resident and worker is expected to bow in a minute of silent prayer.

A program will be held for adult residents of the center in the camp's auditorium after the victory announcement.

Anti-Nisei Leaders Ban Free Discussion at Seattle Meet

Threaten to Oust Anyone Differing with Anti-Evacuee Program

SEATTLE—The Times reported April 3 that "after prefacing their remarks with an avowal of belief in free speech, organizers of a Japanese Exclusion League at Bellevue last night (April 2) told 500 persons in the Overlake school they wanted no debate from the opposition and threatened to oust anyone who tried to take the floor."

In the midst of the speeches by George H. Crandell, Seattle attorney and Hunts Point resident, and A. E. McCroskey, Seattle organizer of the anti-evacuee movement, about 100 opponents were told to "hire your own hall to heckle in . . . and if there are any more outbreaks you will be ejected."

Opposition to the League's anti-Japanese American program was predicted after the meeting by Mrs. Thomas C. Rabbitt, East Side resident.

McCroskey, who was recently hired as a national organizer of anti-Japanese American organizations by the Oregon Property Owner's Protective League, asked all those "who favor exclusion of all American-born Japanese from this country" to raise their hands.

Anti-Evacuee Sign Posted In Valley Town

No Action Will Be Taken to Remove It, Declares Constable

OROSI, Calif.—A sign reading, "No Japs Wanted in This District," was erected sometime during the night of March 30 by unidentified persons at the corner of Palm Avenue and El Monte Way in the center of Orosi.

The sign, 20 inches wide and four and a half feet tall, was written in black letters on a white background and apparently was the work of an expert sign painter, it was reported.

The sign attracted considerable local attention during the day and was still standing this evening. It is supported by stout posts, for which post holes were dug by the unidentified persons.

C. F. Schleicher, Orosi realtor and rancher, who owns the corner, said the sign was erected without his knowledge, but that he will not remove it.

The letters are five inches high and are visible from a considerable distance.

Constable John Shadden said on March 31 that as far as he is concerned no action will be taken to remove the sign. Shadden declared:

"The sign is on private property and a license is not required to erect signs on private property in Orosi."

Several weeks ago two or three shots were fired through the windows of a home in the Orosi district occupied recently by returned evacuees of Japanese ancestry.

Before the evacuation in 1942 there were many farmers of Japanese ancestry in the Orosi area.

District Attorney Walter C. Haight, who declared he knew nothing about the sign, said he will investigate the matter. He declared he would try moral persuasion for the sign's removal in the interests of community peace.

Sheriff S. B. Sherman also disclaimed knowledge of the sign.

Newspaperwoman Visits Famed Nisei Battalion in France

DETROIT, Mich.—"One of the crack battalions in the American Army is the One Puka Puka, or 100th Battalion of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, which guards the French-Italian front in the Maritime Alps," Marjorie Avery, Detroit Free Press war correspondent, declared in a dispatch from Nice which was published on March 14.

The combat record of the 100th, according to Miss Avery, is so outstanding "that the group is looked on with admiration and respect by the white troops they associate with."

The 100th, the correspondent noted, was originally made up of Japanese Americans from Hawaii—but now through many losses its ranks are augmented by men of Japanese ancestry from the American mainland.

Miss Avery noted that the commanding officer of the 100th Battalion was Maj. Alex McKenzie of Honolulu, whose wife and baby son are now living in Dinia, Fla. (Recent dispatches reported that Lieut. Col. Gordon Singles of Denver, Colo., who commanded the 100th in the latter part of the Italian campaign and through the fighting in the Vosges mountains, had been promoted to a new command.)

"The front the 100th Battalion is helping hold is called the Champagne Front—because compared with other fighting areas it's in a peasant, sunny spot," the Free Press writer declared. "Headquarters lives in an old house, partly damaged by shells. Most of the troops live under cover, except the companies sent to hold the forward posts and the patrols who operate back and forth over a no-man's land that often is 7,000 feet up."

Two Nisei Girls Commissioned In U. S. Army Nurse Corps

Report Nisei Now Accepted on Same Basis As Other Applicants

SAN FRANCISCO—Two more Nisei girls have been commissioned in the Army Nurse Corps, bringing to a total of five the number of Japanese American girls serving with the ANC, it was announced here this week by R. B. Cozzens, Assistant Director of the War Relocation Authority. The War Department notified Mr. Cozzens that Teiko Harata began active duty April 2 at Tilton General Hospital, near Fort Dix, N. J., and that Masako Mary Yamada, whose former home was Los Angeles, was inducted March 30.

Miss Yamada's mother, Mrs. Kama Yamada who formerly lived at 613 East Sixth Street, Los Angeles, and a sister, Mrs. Helen Miyasato, recently relocated from Heart Mountain Relocation Center to New York to join Miss Yamada.

Until her acceptance in the Army Nurse Corps, Miss Yamada taught in a large New York public high school, then became a ward instructor, assistant supervisor in surgery and first supervisor in a special service at one of New York's hospitals.

Properly qualified Nisei women who have been cleared for military service by the War Department are accepted into the Army Nurse Corps for assignment in the United States on the same basis as other applicants who meet ANC requirements.

Any registered nurse wishing to volunteer may apply at the nearest Red Cross recruiting station.

Building Returned By Sacramento Court To Evacuee Owner

SACRAMENTO—Municipal Judge Percy G. West on March 31 granted Masao Toki, a grocer who was evacuated in 1942, legal restitution of a two flat building he occupied at 1630½ Fourth Street before the evacuation of persons of Japanese ancestry.

The suit is believed to be the first in Sacramento involving legal action by a returned evacuee to resume occupancy of premises vacated because of evacuation orders.

Toki is reported to have returned here in February. He filed the complaint in unlawful detainer after Lillian Martiner, lessee, refused to surrender the premises. The defendant did not contest the suit and permitted entry of default judgment.

Fifteen Leaders Jailed at Newell

NEWELL, Calif.—Fifteen men, leaders of a group accused of attempting to carry on pro-Japanese activities in the Tule Lake segregation center, have been tried and sentenced to jail terms ranging from 90 to 110 days during the last week and a half.

Harry L. Black, project hearing officer, announced the men, all of whom pleaded guilty of one or more violations of regulations, included the presidents and vice-presidents of two "pro-Japanese" societies.

Investigate Property Holdings of Nisei In Placer County

AUBURN, Calif.—District Attorney C. E. Tindall of Placer county announced April 3 that J. H. Mulvey, a special investigator for the State Attorney General's office, is examining titles to property in Placer county owned by persons of Japanese ancestry.

Mulvey was sent to Placer county at Tindall's request by Attorney General Robert Kenny.

As a basis for his preliminary work, Mulvey is examining the reports compiled by the Placer County Defense Council in 1942.

Tindall has announced escheatment proceedings in any cases where Mulvey may uncover sufficient evidence of possible violations of California's Alien Land Law, which makes illegal the ownership or control of property by aliens of Japanese ancestry.

Rules Out Issei's Request for Property

PORTLAND, Ore.—Because the lease agreement under which Multnomah county has possession of 40 acres of land adjacent to the county farm at Troutdale was entered into with the two sons of B. Fujii, both of whom are now in the armed forces of the United States, Fujii has no authority to make a demand for return of the property, Stanley M. Jones, chief civil deputy district attorney, advised county commissioners last week.

Fujii had sought possession of the property so that he could plow up the alfalfa ground and plant his own crops.

GI Views on Nisei Americans Told to People of Home Town

SACRAMENTO—Two GI sergeants on the Western Front answered, in a letter published in the Sacramento Bee of March 31, a comment by "Five Disgusted Americans of Newcastle" who complained that American citizens of Japanese ancestry were able to carry on their educations in American institutions of learning and wondered what "our boys overseas" thought of it.

In the letter to the Bee Staff Sgt. Norman Forman and Sgt. Gerald Plaskett said:

"Sorry it has taken so long to let them know, but it takes quite a while for The Bee to reach France. If they still are wondering, just tell them we are damned glad there is still some place on this war scarred globe where people still can live in the pursuit of life, liberty and happiness. But we, too, are wondering.

"We are wondering why we should cross oceans and deserts, endure Anzios and Cassinos to stamp out the oppressors of down-trodden humanity while in our

Nineteen Face Trial in Draft Violation Case

One Defendant Offers To Join U. S. Army; Cases Consolidated

CHEYENNE, Wyo.—Nineteen evacuees, all residents or former residents of the Heart Mountain relocation center, who were scheduled to go on trial on March 30 on charges of violation of selective service regulations, will have their cases considered through the filing of trial briefs rather than oral arguments, it has been decided.

The defendants, eighteen of whom are represented by Attorney A. L. Wirin of Los Angeles, and one, Frank Masao Kawakami by Robert G. Caldwell, had previously waived a jury trial and agreed to consolidation of their cases for hearing before Federal Judge T. Blake Kennedy.

Attorney Caldwell informed the court that his client, Kawakami, had requested he be permitted to join the Army.

Judge Kennedy stated that he did not "want to dispose of that matter at this time," and indicated Kawakami might not be accepted by the armed forces. Judge Kennedy declared, however, he would "consider his attitude" in regard to his desire to join the Army at the time the case matures.

After conferring for several hours defense and prosecution attorneys agreed on stipulations of fact in the case and presented them to Judge Kennedy.

The defense was given until April 14 to file memorandums in brief in the case and the government must have its brief filed by May 1 at which time Judge Kennedy said the case would be "taken into consideration and decided."

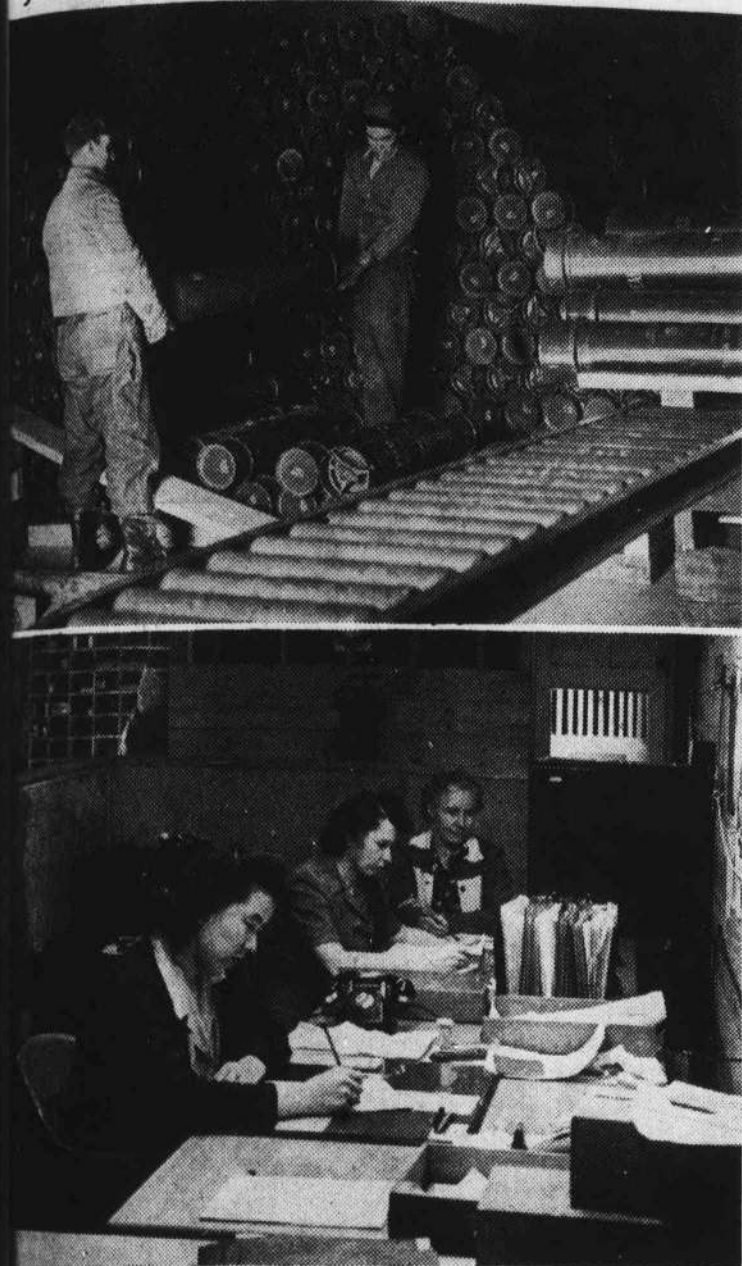
The majority of the defendants in the draft cases have indicated that they refused to comply with selective service regulations because of their evacuation from West Coast homes and their confinement in a war relocation center.

Wirin, who represented several other Heart Mountain residents on a similar charge recently, revealed he has taken over the case of 63 Heart Mountain evacuees who were convicted in Federal court in Cheyenne in June, 1944, and who are now serving penitentiary terms. At the time of the trial the 63 were represented by Samuel D. Menin of Denver. The case was appealed to the 10th U. S. district court of appeals and their decision affirmed the decision of the district court. Wirin said the case is being appealed to the U. S. Supreme Court.

Evacuee Woman Gets Salt Lake License

The Salt Lake City Commission this week authorized the granting of a business license to Mrs. Rae Fujimoto, formerly of San Francisco, to operate a soy bean products establishment.

Evacuees Work at Sioux



(Top) Ben Kawata from Granada relocation center and a Caucasian employee arrange shells in neat piles in one of the igloos, or storage places, at the Sioux Ordnance Depot in Nebraska. Before evacuation he was a resident of Petaluma, Calif. (Bottom) Mrs. Sueno Kodama from Minidoka works as a clerk-typist in the post property section at the Sioux depot. Her husband, Satoru Kodama, is employed as a munitions handler. The Kodamas went to Minidoka from Seattle, Wash.—Photos by Takashi Aoyama for WRA.

Fifty Evacuee Families Help Speed Arms to Fighting Fronts from Sioux Ordnance Depot

SIoux ORDNANCE DEPOT, Neb.—Employees at the Sioux Ordnance Depot near Sidney, Nebraska, are learning that Americanism, as President Roosevelt put it, "is a matter of the mind and heart," rather than of race or skin pigmentation.

They are seeing for themselves that loyalty to America can be found even in the heart of a brown-skinned, slant-eyed descendant of the people against whom our soldiers are waging bitter war in the Pacific.

The lesson is embodied in 50 families of persons of Japanese ancestry, most of them United States citizens by virtue of birth; some of them Japanese nationals who have lived in this country many years but who are barred by the Oriental exclusion act from becoming naturalized.

At least one breadwinner from each family is doing his best to shorten the war by serving as a munitions handler—unloading ammunition shipped to the depot for storage and preparing shipments of munitions destined for every fighting front. It is work as vital in its way as the actual firing of the shells at the enemy.

Both the Nisei and Issei are fully conscious of the role they are playing, not only in winning the war but as torchbearers for the loyal Nisei and Issei—part of a group of 127,000 people living in this country who after the Pearl Harbor attack personified many outraged Americans as the worst-hated foe in the history of the United States.

They know that because they are of Japanese origin they must strive harder than white-skinned persons to prove their loyalty to the United States. They have flinched repeatedly under the accusation that "a Jap's a Jap." And yet those of them who were born in this country take pride in their citizenship and even the aliens employed at Sioux are glad of the chance to help the United States defeat the foe.

Under an arrangement with the War Relocation Authority, which administers the relocation centers

in which persons of Japanese ancestry were placed pursuant to an army order in March, 1942, army officials at Sioux began recruiting Nisei and Issei last September. Efforts to recruit for Sioux have thus far been focused on four of the eight relocation centers—Granada in Colorado, Minidoka in Idaho, Rohwer in Arkansas, and Topaz in Utah. A few Nisei have been recruited from among those who are living outside the relocation centers.

One of the most enthusiastic recruiters for the depot is Charles Takahashi, who was evacuated from Seattle, Washington, where he has extensive business interests, to the Minidoka center. Takahashi not only was instrumental in persuading more than 70 families at Minidoka to apply for work at the depot, but he has spent \$1000 out of his own pocket in making recruiting trips as an unofficial emissary of Sioux.

Takahashi himself applied for work as a munitions handler at the depot (but army authorities consider him far more valuable as a recruiter).

"I'm not too good to be a munitions handler," said Takahashi. "I'm not too good to do anything to help win the war."

Then there is Taft Beppu, a college graduate who before the war ran a profitable sporting goods house in Seattle. Beppu moved his young wife and small child from Minidoka to Sioux because, he said, "it gave me a chance to rehabilitate myself and my family and to prove my loyalty to the United States at one

MOTHER RECEIVES SILVER STAR WON BY SOLDIER SON

HEART MOUNTAIN, Wyo.—In a solemn and impressive ceremony last week at the Heart Mountain relocation center, Mrs. Tomi Aoyama received the United States Army's Silver Star medal, posthumously awarded to her only son, Cpl. Yoshiharu N. Aoyama, for gallantry in action.

Corporal Aoyama, fatally wounded July 6, 1944, during the Fifth Army drive through Italy, died the following day after refusing medical attention until other wounded men had been treated, despite the fact that both his legs had been blown off from a direct hit by an artillery shell.

His physical and moral courage "reflect the highest tradition of the military service," his citation, read by Col. Jesse F. Canary of Fort Warren, declared.

Tribute was paid the dead Japanese American hero by Douglas M. Todd, acting project director.

"The sacrifice he made brings honor upon his mother and upon all of his people. With his death we receive a clearer conception of the principles upon which our lives are founded," said Todd.

stroke." He is now a gang boss and probably will soon be a foreman.

Kaz Kimura, who lived in Seattle prior to evacuation, and his wife and three children are at Sioux.

"I like it fine here," said Kimura. "I'm glad to have the chance to do a little something for my country."

Kimura's brother, Sam, is the father of the first baby of Japanese extraction born at the depot. It was his second child.

"It was a cheap baby, too," Sam grinned. "It only cost me \$6.50 per day at the Post hospital."

Six and a half dollars per day is the fixed hospital fee at the depot, regardless of the kind of medical and surgical treatment required.

A group of Nisei and Issei huddled around an interviewer in the magazine area at the depot and chorused, "Sure, it's great," when asked if they liked working at the depot.

Howard Ravert, a Caucasian foreman of a crew of Nisei, is an ardent friend of the men who work under him. A depot official said that Ravert at first was dubious as to whether he'd like bossing a crew of Nisei.

"But now," added the official, "I think Ravert would quit if we tried to take his Japanese Americans away from him."

Lt. Col. Harold J. Preble, Commanding Officer at Sioux, declared he'd "like to get more of workers like the Nisei and Issei at the depot. They're as good as they come."

Although the Issei and Nisei start as munitions handlers, there are opportunities for advancement. Later, they will be reclassified according to skills and will be utilized at their highest abilities, to the benefit of both the individual and the depot.

The wives and sisters of many of them are employed as secretaries, clerks, checkers, etc. One woman has evinced a desire to start a cleaning shop at the depot; another is thinking of opening a laundry. A munitions handler expressed the intention of bringing his father to Sioux to open a watch-repairing shop. Since Sioux is a sizable community in itself, there are many opportunities for legitimate outlets for the profit motive.

Before the Nisei and Issei were employed at Sioux, Colonel Preble and his personnel officer, Capt. George H. Figner, sounded out sentiment in the nearby town of Sidney, a western Nebraska community of 5,000 population.

At the outset a few persons jibbed at the idea of fraternizing with persons who resembled the enemy in appearance.

But the two army officers had little difficulty in winning over Sidney residents, even those who initially were inclined to be unfriendly to Nisei and Issei. Now it's common to see men and women of Japanese origin shopping in Sidney, eating in restaurants there, and otherwise going about their affairs.

"Bringing the Nisei and Issei to Sioux," commented Colonel Preble, "has been a salutary lesson to all of us. We have concrete proof that Americanism has nothing to do with racial origin. It's a lesson that most of us will never forget."

Night-Riders Continue Attacks On Homes of Returned Evacuees In Central California Area

FBI Agents Investigate Second Shooting at Home Of Japanese Americans in Livingston District; Incident Is Third in Recent Weeks in Region

MERCED, Calif.—In the latest instance of night-riding terrorism against returned evacuees of Japanese ancestry in the San Joaquin valley, an unidentified gunman fired two shots into one of the uprights of the porch at the home of T. Andow on the night of March 31 or the early morning of Easter Sunday. The attack was the second on the Andow home in a month.

FBI operatives and Merced county deputy sheriffs have instigated a thorough investigation of the incident, the third in a series of reported attacks upon the homes of returned Japanese Americans in the Livingston district.

Sheriff's officers said the bullets apparently were fired from the road, 100 yards from the house. The bullets went through the uprights and officers were unable to find them in the field beyond. There were no footprints.

None of the evacuees in the Andow home was injured in the incident. In the house at the time were Mr. and Mrs. Andow, their daughter and three visiting Japanese Americans. No one heard the shots.

The officers have a possible

clue in a bullet which was fired into the Andow home four weeks ago. This bullet, mashed by the impact against the side of their house, is being held by officers. They declare a portion of it has retained its original form sufficiently for it to be identified as of .22 caliber. No ballistics tests have been made of it as yet.

Officials declared a number of Japanese Americans have moved back into the Livingston area, which had a fairly large population of persons of Japanese ancestry before the war.

Andow told authorities he had no idea who fired the shots.

WRA Chief Asks Protection For Japanese American GIs Returning to Coast States

Bullet Dug from Wall of Home of Ex-Soldier Sent to Sacramento for Examination as Investigation Pushed in Madera Shooting Case

SAN FRANCISCO—The Examiner reported on March 30 that San Francisco officials of the War Relocation Authority had announced Dillon S. Myer, national WRA director, intends to request "protection" for American soldiers of war veterans of Japanese ancestry who return to the West Coast area.

The announcement followed news of the recent incident at Madera, Calif., when two Japanese Americans, one an Army corporal and the other an honorably discharged veteran of the Italian campaign, were the targets of a gun attack.

WRA Studies Nebraska Move To Oust Nisei

Farmers in Buffalo County Had Signed Petition for Ouster

OMAHA, Neb.—An attempt to force Nisei families in Buffalo county, Nebraska, to move was being investigated this week by officials of the War Relocation Authority, International News Service reported.

A petition signed by 91 farmers in the Shelton and Gibbon, Neb., communities was given the Platte Valley Construction company this week asking that it discontinue the employment of Japanese Americans.

Two Nisei families, according to INS, reported they were given "from three to five days" to move from the area. They were employed by the construction company, lessee of hundreds of acres of pump irrigated land.

W. K. Holland, Omaha WRA officer and W. N. Barmeter, assistant director of the Chicago WRA office, had scheduled a meeting with Harlie Simms of Shelton, chairman at a mass meeting at which the petition was presented, in an effort to forestall attempts to move the Nisei from the community.

Two families, those of Hi Korematsu and Pete Omachi, from the Topaz, Utah, relocation center, have been requested to move, Holland said. The two families came to Nebraska, he said, "in response to specific job offers to work for wages only."

Topaz Evacuees Give to Red Cross

TOPAZ, Utah — West coast evacuees of Japanese ancestry residing in the WRA's Central Utah project at Topaz have contributed \$1574 to the American Red Cross, Fred Koba, director of the local Red Cross chapter, announced on March 4.

One of the bullets missed by six inches the head of Minoru Ohashi, 25, owner of the home which was the object of attack, and a veteran of combat in Italy. With Ohashi in the same room was Cpl. Yorio Kawamoto, 24, whose brother is on active duty on the Western Front.

The attack was one of several in Northern California in recent weeks against Japanese Americans, but marked the first time a soldier in American uniform or an honorably discharged veteran has been involved.

Meanwhile, reports from Madera this week stated that a bullet, dug from the wall of the Ohashi home, has been sent to the State Bureau of Identification in Sacramento for examination to determine whether it was shot from a rifle or a revolver.

Deputy Sheriff Ray Andress of Madera also reported that a deputy in the office of Attorney General Robert Kenny called from Sacramento for a complete report on the shooting but did not indicate what, if any, action Kenny might take.

Meanwhile, a thorough investigation has been conducted by District Attorney Everett Coffee in collaboration with the sheriff's office.

The authorities learned a car, traveling at a high rate of speed, was driven down Madera avenue near the Ohashi house just after the shots were heard.

The bullet that was sent to Sacramento for examination was fired through an inch-thick outside wall, shattered a mirror in an upstairs bedroom and then drove into the inside wall panel. Because of its smashed condition a laboratory examination will be necessary before it can be determined whether it was a rifle or pistol slug.

Ohashi returned to Madera with his parents and two sisters from Rohwer after he received a medical discharge from the Army after overseas service. He told officials he had received no threats and his relations with his neighbors have been friendly. He has a brother with the American army on the Western Front.

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LARRY TAJIRI EDITOR

EDITORIALS:

Franco and the Draft

The decision of the Spanish government of Francisco Franco to stop representing Japanese interests in the United States as a protest against the deaths of Spanish nationals in Manila at the hands of Nippon's militarists leaves Japanese aliens in this country without a go-between between themselves and the Tokyo government. It also indicates that the final dissolution of international fascism may not be far off. The fascists are falling out among themselves.

The Madrid government of the Fascist Franco has represented the interests of Japanese nationals in this country since Pearl Harbor. Most of their work has been concerned with arrangements for repatriation of certain of these nationals and the reporting back to Tokyo of conditions in the relocation centers and in Department of Justice camps in which these citizens of Japan were interned. But there has been one phase of their work which has deeply concerned Americans of Japanese ancestry. This was the brazen attempt of the Spanish government, through their consul at San Francisco, to interfere in the affairs of Japanese Americans.

In the spring of 1944 the Spanish consul in San Francisco sent out letters to evacuees in war relocation centers to the effect that Japanese Americans were not obliged to respond to United States selective service orders because of their confinement in the WRA camps.

At that time the Pacific Citizen strongly protested the interference of Spanish government officials in the affairs of American citizens, and considered that this intrusion into problems concerning the Nisei alone had been responsible in part for a number of refusals on the part of the evacuees to report for pre-induction physical examinations.

In addition, representatives of the Spanish government have exhibited their pro-fascist sympathies in their advice to alien Japanese in the relocation centers, and their influence in their contacts with these evacuees and internees has not been a wholesome one.

Solution on the Coast

There is no easy solution to the resettlement problem faced by evacuees of Japanese ancestry both in and out of the relocation centers. Although the dispersal of the evacuee population, particularly in the Midwest and East, is to be desired it must be understood that Americans of Japanese ancestry cannot rid themselves of discrimination merely by moving away from it.

There has been much talk, particularly from West Coast race-baiters on the "concentration" of persons of Japanese ancestry along the Pacific slope, yet the total number of residents of Japanese ancestry in the state of California in 1941 was little more than one percent of the total. It has been argued that this "concentration" militates against the absorption of the group into the general community pattern, but in Hawaii, where persons of Japanese ancestry constitute 37 percent of the population, there has been a greater degree of community integration on the part of the Japanese and Japanese Americans.

If the Japanese American is to win his fight for domestic treatment, that fight must be won on the West Coast which is the source of the various patterns of discriminatory treatment which have been used against persons of Japanese ancestry. It must be understood that this discrimination has an economic and a racial base, that these enemies of democracy are composed both of competitive commercial and agricultural interests and of old-line anti-Orientalists, and that both these groups are attempting to extend their influence throughout the country.

Meanwhile, coastal hate-mongers also have arrived at the realization that their crusade against decency cannot succeed on a strict regional basis, and that their racist propa-

ganda must be spread throughout the nation. To this end such groups as the new anti-evacuee organizations in the White River valley in Washington, in Northern California and in Oregon's Gresham area and the Hood River valley have already indicated their intention of broadening the scope of their activities. The Oregon Property Owners Protective League (OPOPL) is one of the groups which announced the extension of their work on a national basis.

In view of the determination of the Federal government to close its war relocation program by the end of the present year, the West Coast situation becomes of primary importance. Without the return of a sizable portion of the population in the centers to their former homes, there can be no hope that the WRA program can be concluded by the Dec. 31 deadline. Most of the relocatable residents of the centers have already settled down in communities away from the Pacific Coast, and the 70,000 who remain in the centers face uncertain futures. To prevent the return of the evacuees certain individuals and groups on the West Coast already have resorted to arson, attempted murder and the desecration of graves. If this campaign of threat and violence succeeds in stopping the return of the evacuees to the West Coast, it will set a dangerous precedent for similar forms of vigilante activity, not only against the Japanese Americans but in relation to all minority race groups.

The Des Moines Register: On Nisei Loyalty

One of the most touching things of the war is the unshakable loyalty of the great bulk of our Japanese Americans in Hawaii and the United States, in spite of all we have done to alienate them.

To unify a divided people, we played up heavily the "treachery" element in the Pearl Harbor attack. Though we did not deliberately intend to, this naturally invited antagonism toward anyone with Japanese physical characteristics—even our own loyal ones.

To soothe our own panic and to satisfy West Coast Yellow Peril hounds, we then evacuated everyone of Japanese birth or ancestry in the coast area to humane concentration camps though all suspected Japanese agents had been picked up by the FBI long before. In time, we found several thousand more who were at least passively disloyal, but we shall never know how much of this disloyalty and fear we created by our mass evacuation and confinement of people.

In time, we also found irrefutable proof of the loyalty of the great bulk of the Japanese Americans. So we began their reintegration into the community by relocation, into the Army by volunteering and later by the regular draft. Meanwhile the original confinement policy had stirred up our ignorant elements against relocation of these people. "If the government had to shut them up behind barbed wire, why turn them loose on us?" the cry went up. Fortunately this attitude was not general, and has not interfered very much with relocation.

As the war moved to the far reaches of the Pacific, we finally dropped the ban against Japanese Americans returning to the West Coast regions. But by now, their forcible removal and long abuse had created a vested interest against their return in their former homes. "Neighbors," who once got along with them well enough, now banded together to threaten violence if they came back. Few of our Japanese Americans cared to risk it.

Finally, by deciding to close all the remaining relocation centers, we have put a hard choice up to the more elderly and timid Japanese immigrants. The average age of the Japanese-born males is over 60. Beginning life anew is much harder for them than for the young people. Torn away from their thrifty West Coast farms and businesses so hastily, they lost the bulk of their property and their whole way of life. Now they are about to lose even the temporary security of the relocation centers. Some of them—still a small minority—are asking repatriation to Japan out of despair.

It would have looked to an outsider as if we were determined to make those people disloyal. Yet about 95 per cent have remained loyal through it all, and their representatives in our Army have distinguished themselves repeatedly by conspicuous gallantry! —From the Des Moines, Iowa, Register of March 28, 1945.

Nisei USA

by LARRY TAJIRI

Notes on Nisei Heroes

His name was Tamio Kayama and he was found dead on a street in Berlin. He is one of the first Nisei to appear in American fiction since Pearl Harbor and he already is dead when the story starts. The book is a spy story called, "The Man with a Monocle" by Garnett Weston. Kayama, a Japanese American, is an American spy who is planted inside the Japanese embassy in Berlin. He learns of a secret clause in the Rome-Berlin-Tokyo pact in which Germany pledges to knock out America's inner defense by sabotage in collaboration with a Japanese attack on the United States. Kayama is killed while trying to get the information to the United States agents.

The case of Tamio Kayama points up the greater degree of responsibility shown by the writers of America's fiction, from detective stories to the serious novel, during this war in contrast to the motion picture industry which continues to produce films which circulate racist fallacies and the Pearl Harbor sabotage type of rumor regarding Japanese Americans. The first Nisei we have come across in a popular novel is one who dies while on duty for the United States, but there have been no comparable Nisei characters on the screen with the exception of the only "loyal" Nisei in the film, "Little Tokyo, U.S.A.," who is decapitated in the first reel.

Although the record of Japanese Americans in three years of war has been one of loyalty and devotion to the American war effort, and there have been no cases of any Nisei involvement in acts of sabotage, the screen persists in preserving the fiction of disloyalty and treasonable acts. Another device oft-used by the Hollywood movie-makers is that of identifying villainous Japanese characters with residents of Japanese ancestry in the United States. In 20th Century Fox's "The Purple Heart" the villain of the piece, General Mitsubi, superbly portrayed by Richard Loo, tortures American prisoners of war. In a casual conversation Gen. Mitsubi says that he once lived in Santa Barbara, Calif., and infers that he would like to go there again. Another Tokyo villain in the film turns out to have been a student at Princeton. In "Behind the Rising Sun," a young Japanese student returns from years of study at Cornell and is soon won over to the ways of the militarists, finally winding up as a rapist and murderer of little children. In Warners' "God Is My Co-Pilot," the main Japanese adversary of the Flying Tiger ace is a tough character named "Tokyo Joe" who speaks excellent English as he taunts the Americans over the radio. It turns out, according to Warners, that "Tokyo Joe" had learned how to fly out at Burbank, Calif. Col. Scott's best-selling autobiography, on which the film is ostensibly based had no character named "Tokyo Joe" from Burbank, Calif.

It would appear from the record that Warner Brothers, considered the most consciously pro-democratic of the major Hollywood studios, has a definite blind spot when it comes to the Nisei. Their two films, "Air Force" and "Across the Pacific" in which Nisei are pictured committing acts of sabotage on Hawaiian installations and on the Panama Canal, have had their effect on public opinion. It should not be necessary to repeat here that there is no factual basis for the sabotage shown in either of the films.

Back in December, 1942, the Warner Brothers radio station, KFWB in Hollywood, refused to let A. L. Wirin go on the air with a talk upholding the loyalty of Japanese Americans and condemning the evacuation, and the station's action was brought to the attention of the FCC. More recently, it was after the visit of a Warner Brothers film unit to Springfield, Mass., that opposition sentiment to the reestablishment of the evacuees in that area was crystallized. Crane Wilbur, a Warners director, was reported to have made several statements in which he followed the line of the

West Coast race-baiters. It may be significant that some of the editorials and public statements written and issued in Springfield opposing evacuee resettlement follows this same type of thinking and repeats the calumnies sponsored by the Pacific coast hate mongers.

On the other hand, America's novelists and writers of popular fiction have not dipped into racism in any comment on the Nisei, nor have they woven fanciful tales about sabotage and spies in the absence of actual documentation.

The fact that there have been so few Nisei characters in fiction may be attributed to the fact that the Nisei have yet to develop any writers of national stature, in contrast, for instance, to the Armenian Americans, a group which is numerically smaller than the Nisei, but which has contributed such a prolific tale-spinner as William Saroyan, as well as H. L. Bezzerides, Leon Surmelian and others.

The writing sons of immigrant parents have brought to American literature the flavor of the melting pot culture of our democracy. It is as natural for these second generation Americans to write of their own experiences and those of their immigrant parents as it is for Steinbeck to draw on the human and topographical resources of his own Salinas valley. In an America which has become more racially conscious since the war, it lends to understanding to have John Fante, Michael deCapite or Pietro diDonato tell how it was to live in a community of Italian Americans, Pardee Lowe to remember Chinatown ceremonials, and Carlos Bulosan to recall the laughter of his Filipino father. Some writers like Saroyan in "The Human Comedy" and his prize-winning play, "The Time of Your Life," have extended their talents beyond race-conscious writing, while other American writers like Richard Wright and Langston Hughes are primarily concerned with the fact that they are Negroes and through their writing have been instrumental in focusing necessary attentions on the problems of their group.

A great American writer has said that the people of America will never know how the Japanese Americans felt when the white evacuation placards were tacked onto the telephone poles of the western coast, or when they boarded the evacuee trains to leave behind their lifetime homes, until some Nisei puts that story into a novel. All the statistics, the polemics and the stolid sentences of government reports which have been published on the evacuation and life in the relocation camps cannot tell the story in the way that a well-written novel can, as Barron Beshoar has observed. One novel on evacuation has already appeared, Florence Crannell Means' "The Moved-Outers."

There appears to have been a more conscious striving for literary expression among the Nisei more than a decade ago than at any time since then. In the early thirties several "little" magazines appeared, the best known of them being, "Reimei," edited in Salt Lake City by Yasuo Sasaki, now a practicing physician in Covington, Ky. "Reimei," in the manner of similar magazines of its day, was primarily interested in experimental writing.

The evacuation resulted in a brief flurry of activity and such short-lived publications as Trek at Topaz, notable for Mine Okubo's art work. Eddie Shimano's Santa Anita Pacemaker, the magazine section of the Tulean Dispatch, the Tanforan Totalizer, the Denison Magnet and other similar publications offer source material for the literary historian of this unprecedented American migration. Miss Okubo has completed a book of drawings of relocation center life with an accompanying text, but the work still lacks a publisher at this writing. The question does not appear to be one of Miss Okubo's artistic integrity which has been demonstrated in the exhibitions of her work, as well as in her contributions to Fortune and other magazines, but is based rather on the hesitancy of publishers to attempt the publication of another relocation center book in view of the fact that

(Continued on page 5)

Vagaries

Election . . .

Carey McWilliams and A. L. Wirin announced their support of Mayor Fletcher Bowron of Los Angeles before last Tuesday's primary. Bowron, one of the most vociferous opponents of the removal of Nisei to the coast, recently executed a public turnaround and made his attitude on the Nisei consistent with those he has maintained toward other minority groups. Los Angeles Jap-baiters attempted to make the Nisei evacuee situation one of the issues of the campaign, attacking Bowron as a "friend" of the Nisei. Liberal forces, according to an observer, have united behind Bowron because they believe that the splitting of progressive support between Bowron and Clifford Clinton may result in the election of a reactionary.

Veteran . . .

Both the Times and Daily News in Los Angeles published photos last week of Pvt. Koo Ito, Nisei veteran who lost a leg in Italy. Pvt. Ito and his wife were in Los Angeles on the start of a 15-day furlough . . . A new member of Gen. William Mitchell Post of the American Legion in Detroit is Akira Imagawa, an employee of the Detroit City Planning department. Imagawa volunteered from Tule Lake in May, 1943. . . The new RKO film, "Betrayed from the East," which tells a story of pre-Pearl Harbor espionage by persons of Japanese ancestry in the United States, brought the following comment from Virginia Wright of the Los Angeles Daily News when the film opened there last week: "When loyal Japanese Americans are being released from relocation centers, its racial sentiments are likely to stir antipathies in the wrong directions. . . The story tells of the leader of a Japanese spy ring in America who is also a student and yell leader at Stanford University . . . A recent survey by Nisei alumni at Stanford disclosed that sixty Japanese Americans from the school were in the armed forces of the United States, none had been indicted for espionage or sabotage."

Coast Job . . .

The Y's Bear, published by the University of California YMCA, reported on March 28: "Recently a Nisei woman went to work in a small industry in Oakland and some of the other workers threatened to walk out. The employers were determined that the woman should receive fair consideration and called upon the WPA and the Berkeley Inter-racial Committee for assistance. Representatives of these two groups met and talked with the workers at the plant. After several weeks, it is reported that the Nisei worker is getting along very well with her fellow-workers, including those who most strongly opposed her employment."

Commissioned . . .

Lieut. Mary Yamada was commissioned this week after working for two years to enlist in the Army Nurse Corps . . . One Nisei girl is now on duty as a flight nurse . . . An exhibition of the work of Japanese American artists is being planned in the New York area. Bonestell gallery in New York this week placed on display some recent pieces by sculptor Leo Amino . . . Pearl Buck will do the introduction to Backham Holt's forthcoming book on Japanese Americans which will be published by John Day.

Segregation . . .

Representatives of the AFL and the Railroad Brotherhood of Firemen and Engineers in Utah's vital copper mining industry recently demanded the segregation of workers of Japanese ancestry into a separate unit. The CIO, which represents the majority of workers in the industry, did not participate in the demand . . . When he returned to the United States some time ago after overseas service, a much-decorated Nisei officer was asked to make a speaking tour of the United States. The request was placed through regular Army channels. The other day the officer received War Department clearance for his tour—but the letter reached him in a fox-

Commander of Nisei Unit Answers Racist Comment

MANDAN, North Dakota—Lieut. Col. James M. Hanley, commander of the famed 2nd Battalion of the 442nd (Japanese American) Infantry Regiment, took time recently on the Western Front to write a letter to his home town editor, Charles F. Pierce of the Mandan Daily Pioneer.

Col. Hanley, son of James M. Hanley, Sr., of Mandan, took exception to a remark in Editor Pierce's column some weeks ago which read: "A scumb in a paper makes the statement that there are some good Jap-Americans in this country but it didn't say where they were buried."

Col. Hanley's letter, published in the Daily Pioneer on March 31, declared:

10 March 1945
Southern France

Dear Charlie:

Just received the Pioneer of Jan. 20 and noted the paragraph enclosed.

Yes, Charlie, I know where there are some GOOD Japanese Americans—there are some 5000 of them in this unit. They are American soldiers—and I know where some of them are buried. I wish I could show you some of them, Charlie. I remember one Japanese American. He was walking ahead of me in a forest in France. A German shell took the right side of his face off. I recall another boy, an 88 had been trying to get us for some time—finally got him. When they carried him out on a stretcher the bloody meat from the middle of the thighs down hung over the end of the stretcher and dragged in the dirt—the bone parts were gone.

I recall a sergeant—a Japanese American if you will—who had his back blown in two—what was he doing? Why, he was only lying on top of a white officer who had been wounded, to protect him from shell fragments during a barrage.

I recall one of my boys who stopped a German counter attack single handed. He fired all his BAR ammunition, picked a German rifle, emptied that—used a German Luger pistol he had taken from a prisoner.

I wish I could tell you the number of Japanese Americans who have died in this unit alone.

I wish I could tell you the number of wounded we have had—the sightless eyes, the missing limbs, the broken minds.

I wish I could tell you the decorations we have won.

I wish the boys in the "Lost Battalion" could tell you what they think of Japanese Americans.

I wish that all the troops we have fought beside could tell you what they know.

The marvel is, Charlie, that these boys fight at all—they are good soldiers in spite of the type of racial prejudice shown by your paragraph.

I know it makes a good joke—but it is the kind of joke that prejudice thrives upon. It shows a lack of faith in the American ideal. Our system is supposed to make good Americans out of anyone—it certainly has done it in the case of these boys.

You, the Hood River Legion post, Hearst and a few others make one wonder just what we are fighting for. I hope it isn't racial prejudice.

Come on over here, Charlie. I'll show you where "some good Jap-Americans" are buried.

J. M. Hanley,
Hq. 442nd Inf. APO 758
In Care of P. M., NYC.

(Col. Hanley's father, a veteran of the Spanish American War and the Mexican Border Mobilization, commanded a machine gun battalion and saw service in the same sector, the Vosges Mountains, where the 442nd Combat Team has been in action in the identical trenches from which Col. Hanley's father fought the Germans of World War I.)

Book Review:

Story of a Typical Evacuee Family Told in New Novel

"The Moved-Outers," by Florence Crannel Means. Illustrations by Helen Blair. Houghton Mifflin Company, 1945. \$2.00. 154 pp.

By SAM HOHRI

Events in recent turbulent years readily lend themselves to little adaption to novel form. But war novels have become so standardized that one sometimes wonders how plots were resolved before Pearl Harbor. What was fantastic and improbable a decade ago has become credible—and personally real in regard to the Nisei's own peculiar experiences in exile.

Too, the novel conveys emotional crises more deftly than non-fiction. In "The Moved-Outers," Kim Ohara's story is told simply and compactly.

Kim wins a high school debate with a popular affirmation of democracy at the beginning of that innocent week-end that was to wither so numbingly. The invasion of headline making developments mercilessly violate his naive concept of a democracy and almost wreck him. The first time a hysterical woman blames him and his sister Sue for Pearl Harbor's casualties is a shocking moment by which they are long disturbed. And the account of their "last day" relives the poignancy of an unforgettable experience.

Santa Anita and Amache are portrayed with authentic details, even to "Lil Neebo," star of a hole on the Western Front.

Robert Sueno Kumabe, production engineer at Crucible Steel in Harrison, New Jersey, recently spoke at the N. J. College for women on the problems of Japanese Americans.

cartoon strip.

The story records the rapid disintegration of a family when confronted by center life. The burden of preventing the family's complete dissolution falls upon Jiro Ito.

The basic faults of center life are thus revealed. The organized facilities of the camp cannot keep Kim from seeking associates in the camp's "zoot suit" gang, for he believes he can find the sympathy he seeks in his bewildered resentment at having his faith in democracy betrayed. As an older friend, Jiro persuades Kim that his obligations to the democracy from which he benefited so long are just beginning.

When the WRA adopts the policy of encouraging relocation, a way is opened to many individuals to work out their own problems. The residue continue to atrophy and deteriorate, lacking the contacts and friendship that might prevent them from succumbing to their environment.

It is unfortunate that there occurs a small error which might needlessly cast doubt on the otherwise accurate data: On April 17 the Oharas are described as still in their Cordova home, but their Easter service at Santa Anita is also described.

"The Moved-Outers" is listed as a juvenile book. This may be fortunate, for most material to date on the Nisei exile has been written for adults. Young people have been neglected, and as the hope for a tomorrow that will rise above prejudice, they should have access to material such as this. A good way "to do something" might be to see that "The Moved-Outers" is placed in libraries all over the country.

From the Frying Pan

By BILL HOSOKAWA

Racists Active Twenty-Five Years Ago

Lest the younger generation of Nisei and some of our new-found friends get the impression the so-called Japanese American problem is strictly an offshoot of the war, we reproduce a newspaper story published 25 years ago this week.

The story appeared in the Des Moines (Iowa) Register, known even then for its liberal outlook. This is obvious in the carefully qualified headline which appeared above the story: "Westerner Cries Japanese Alarm," and "California Editor Tells of 'Necessity' of Exclusion."

The story is datelined from Cleveland, Ohio, and was published in the April 4, 1920 issue. It read:

"Japanese birth rate in California is so high and their standard of living so low, that any immigration policy other than exclusion will result in the ultimate destruction of the American population in the west, if not in the whole United States. V. S. McClatchy, publisher of the Sacramento Bee, asserted yesterday in a luncheon address before the City club.

"The Japanese have neither

the ability, the desire, nor the power under their government to become citizens of this country," Mr. McClatchy said.

"They are unassimilable. They do not care for citizenship. Their government expects Japanese in this country to remain loyal to the country of their fathers, and they are loyal to Japan."

"The chief objection to the Japanese is not racial antipathy, but the knowledge that their economic advantages make it hopeless for the white man to compete with them, Mr. McClatchy explained.

"The Japanese work longer hours for smaller pay than Americans, their women toil in the fields, they concentrate in close communities; they have wonderful business cooperation and they control the produce trade in many sections, he said. Because of these factors, they gradually drive Americans out of every business they enter.

"Mr. McClatchy said the Japanese practically control the Imperial valley in southern California; have 85 percent of the Rocky Ford melon business in Colorado; hold half the Hood River apple district in Oregon and control the southern California fisheries.

"The speaker recited a number of figures from the California bureau of vital statistics tending to show that the Japanese increase about four times as rapidly as Americans in California and that while the American birth rate there is decreasing, the Japanese birth rate is rising.

"Plans to admit Japanese by ratios or proportions based on numbers now here or now citizens such as the Gulick plan and the Dillingham bill, Mr. McClatchy characterized as traps which would result finally in the breeding of enough Japanese in this country to control it.

"Under the Gulick plan, in 140 years 100,000,000 Japanese would be living in America, he said."

The hue and cry at that time was for a Japanese exclusion act which was passed by congress and put into effect some four years later. It is an interesting historic footnote that many observers feel the exclusion act was a principal factor in causing a Japanese national inferiority complex which found its outlet in extreme nationalism and militarism and which, ultimately led to this war.

One is struck, however, by how little the arguments of the "antis" have changed in a quarter of a century. Throughout McClatchy's argument there runs the thread of economic interest. The same thread stands out boldly in the fabric of racial conflict, wartime hatreds and misunderstandings over, first, the west coast evacuation of Japanese Americans, and now the issue of their return to their former homes.

Even the locales of greatest friction are unchanged, as note Hood River and the Imperial valley.

V. S. McClatchy is gone now, but the spirit of his racial intolerance has survived him. Yet, it must be said that McClatchy unlike many of his successors had an honesty of purpose and a sincere if misguided patriotism.

This story from the yellowed files of a 25-year-old newspaper must remind the Nisei and their friends that their fight is the continuation of a long struggle for realization of the American way, a struggle that reaches back decades before 1920 and which undoubtedly will stretch far into the future beyond 1945.

It is a reminder, too, of some of the things that the Issei, the parent generation, had to overcome as they helped to pioneer the undeveloped west immediately before and following the turn of the century.

There is reason for the lack of vigor and enthusiasm with which the Issei look upon taking up the struggle once more by resettlement from war relocation camps, and this underscores the necessity for Nisei leadership in carrying on the fight.

Letter-Box FROM OUR READERS

The Editor, Pacific Citizen:

In West Hartford, Connecticut, for almost a year now, we have enjoyed having as a member of our family a Japanese American girl, who is now attending college here and doing fine work of scholarship grade. We have grown very fond of her, but we will soon be wishing her Godspeed as she returns to California to the college of her choice before the evacuation. We are ever glad for her and her family that this is possible.

Some of you in the camps will not be able to go back to your homes, or have none to which to return. We are deeply concerned that you who have sought refuge in our democracy have found even the privilege of earning your livelihood, to say nothing of your other rights, cut off, and at a time when even your sons are being called upon to fight for this sacred right of a free people.

Thus, we want you to know that there are places in this country, at least I can speak of Hartford as one, where you will be heartily welcomed, if you would have the courage to venture forth as far as New England. There are many homes here which would be open to you, temporarily, at least, until you could find your place in the community and establish your own. We are determined to help you to start again. We want you to know that we believe that you have much to give us, in helping us to understand what it means for all races of the world to live together in harmony and live for each other.

Before we had the privilege of knowing one of you, we must confess, we were afraid of unpleasant incidents. Now, we believe that you will find folk here will like you for yourselves when they know you are determined to become useful citizens, in spite of all that has happened in the past. So please have faith in us, and we will do our best to help you.

Sincerely,

Jean Hastings Loyjoy,
West Hartford, Conn.

Nisei USA: Notes on Heroes

(Continued from page 4)

John Day shortly will bring out Backham Holt's "The Golden Door" on which she has had the active collaboration of the Nisei artist, Henry Fukuhara. The book is a semi-biography based on Fukuhara's life and will be illustrated by him.

The impact of war has made the Nisei story an important part of the American experience. Although many books have already been written, though not by Nisei writers, all of the story has not yet been told. There is the stuff of literature in the evacuation and there is the lore of legend in the combat exploits of Japanese American GIs overseas. It will be part of the responsibility of Nisei writers to make these a part of the continuing story of America.

Evacuee Artist Shows Work At Exhibition in Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—An exhibition of fourteen paintings by Masao Yabuki, formerly of the Central Utah Relocation Center, is being held until April 7 at the Women's University Club in Philadelphia. Mr. Yabuki, whose parents, Mr. and Mrs. George K. Yabuki, reside at 12-1-B, Central Utah, relocated to Philadelphia in April 1944. He quickly obtained a job with a large firm of industrial designers, Van Doren, Nowland and Schladermundt, and since then has been so busy that he has had little time for painting.

His present exhibition in Philadelphia is composed of three paintings done in 1940-1941 at Berkeley; four paintings done at the Tanforan Assembly Center, San Bruno, Calif., in 1942; and eight paintings done during 1944-1945 in Philadelphia and Allen-

town, Pa., where Mr. Yabuki has gone several times on business.

Mr. Yabuki received his art training at the University of California in Berkeley, from which he was graduated in 1940. He then studied with Eugen Neuhaus and Margaret O'Hagen, and in 1942 received his Master's Degree in Art from the University. Before evacuation his work had been shown at the Oakland, Calif., art gallery and by Delta Epsilon, art honorary society of the University of California. At Central Utah, he was the head of the Art Department of the Center High School and did some illustration work.

Before evacuation the Yabuki family lived at 474 23rd St., Oakland, Calif. The elder Mr. Yabuki was executive director of the Market Laundry Co. Inc. in Oakland and a security broker.

Gen. Devers Awards Silver, Bronze Stars to Men in 442nd

WITH THE SIXTH ARMY GROUP, FRANCE—Lt. Gen. Jacob L. Devers, commanding general of 6th Army Group, which includes the U. S. Seventh and French First Armies, has authorized the following awards:

SILVER STAR, to Sgt. Jimmie K. Motoyama, Arvada, Nevada—"... for gallantry in action on 27 October 1944 in France. When his platoon was pinned down and cut off from the remainder of the company by the fire of a superior enemy force, Sgt. Motoyama voluntarily took command. Placing another man in charge of the platoon, he crept, crawled and ran from tree to tree for a distance of 500 yards to contact the remainder of the company for aid. With men from the weapons and 1st platoons he returned to his unit to give covering fire which would enable the platoon to withdraw to safer positions. Disregarding his personal safety he made his way from foxhole to foxhole to instruct each of the men in the plan of withdrawal, and with excellent covering fire from the reinforcements, the platoon and the wounded were able to reach safety."

SILVER STAR, to Pvt. George Sakaguchi, Hunt, Idaho—"... for gallantry in action on 18 October 1944, in the vicinity of Bruyeres, France, while a member of an artillery forward observer party. During an attack on strongly held enemy positions, when the forward observer and his assistant were seriously injured in an enemy barrage, Pvt. Sakaguchi voluntarily left his foxhole and dashed through an exposed area of 200 yards in the midst of exploding shells and flying fragments to go to the aid of his wounded comrades. While still subject to heavy enemy fire he rendered first aid, and later helped to evacuate the casualties to the aid station. Pvt. Sakaguchi's consideration for the safety of his comrades in the face of extreme danger reflects credit upon himself and the United States Army."

FIRST OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL, to Pfc. Setsuo J. Matsura, Potlatch, Idaho—"... for heroic achievement in the vicinity of Biffontaine, France, on 8 November 1944. Pfc. Matsura with utter disregard for his personal safety, left his covered position to administer first aid to a comrade who was seriously wounded in the chest during a heavy enemy artillery barrage. Noticing that the patient's condition required immediate evacuation, he hastily placed him on his back and carried him 200 yards through the shelling to the forward medical aid station. This prompt action saved the life of the wounded soldier."

BRONZE STAR MEDAL, to S/Sgt. Gimei Takaesu, Madison, Wisconsin—"... for heroic achievement during the assault on Biffontaine, France on 22 October 1944. S/Sgt. Takaesu led a 7-man patrol across two streets under hostile observation and fire and succeeded in capturing an enemy strong-point, killing three and capturing eight of its defenders. In addition two vehicles equipped with radios, and one loaded with rifles were captured. That night the group was coun-

ter-attacked by the enemy in platoon strength supported by tanks and anti-tank guns. In the face of strong opposition offered by S/Sgt. Takaesu and his men the enemy was forced to withdraw."

BRONZE STAR MEDAL, to S/Sgt. Masaharu Okumura, Rivers, Arizona—"... for heroic achievement on 14 November 1944, in France. When two riflemen were severely wounded 25 yards from an enemy strong-point, S/Sgt. Okumura disregarded enemy machine gun fire to go to their aid. He then brought the men to cover, rendered first aid and again exposed himself to the enemy fire to crawl back to his post. Later, when his patrol leader was seriously wounded in the head, S/Sgt. Okumura sent his men to a safer position, attended to the injured man's wounds and remained with him until he could be safely evacuated."

BRONZE STAR MEDAL to S/Sgt. David M. Ito, Salt Lake City, Utah—"... for heroic achievement in the vicinity of Bruyeres, France, on 17 October 1944. With an aid man, S/Sgt. Ito dashed under a heavy concentration of enemy artillery fire to treat five seriously wounded men. Together the two proficiently gave first aid to all the wounded soldiers while the barrage continued unabated, and then carried them to a position where litter squads could evacuate them to the aid station. The outstanding courage and concern for the welfare of his comrades displayed by S/Sgt. Ito are exemplary of the high traditions of the United States Army."

BRONZE STAR MEDAL, to Sgt. Katsumi L. Takasugi, Los Angeles, California—"... for heroic achievement during the assault on Biffontaine, France, on 22 October 1944. Sgt. Takasugi was a member of a 7-man patrol which crossed two streets under hostile observation and fire and succeeded in capturing an enemy strong-point, killing three and capturing eight of its defenders. In addition, two vehicles equipped with radios, and one loaded with rifles, were captured. That night the group was counter-attacked by the enemy in platoon strength supported by tanks and anti-tank guns. In the face of strong opposition offered by Sgt. Takasugi and the others the enemy was forced to withdraw."

BRONZE STAR MEDAL to Pfc. Tsugio Yamada, Monterey, California—"... for heroic achievement on 6 November 1944, in France. When a boulder rolled over his comrade's slit trench, painfully crushing him and leaving him partly exposed to enemy fire, Pfc. Yamada and another rifleman attempted to extricate him. In spite of the continuous mortar and artillery barrage, Pfc. Yamada and the other rifleman, not wishing to expose others to the enemy fire, worked alone until they succeeded in freeing the injured man from the crushing weight. While his comrade administered first aid, Pfc. Yamada returned to his battalion under fire and through minefields, obtained a litter and came back to evacuate the wounded man."

BRONZE STAR MEDAL, to Pfc. Teruo Nobori, Salt Lake City, Utah—"... for heroic achieve-

Corporal from Hawaii Assumes Command of Battered Company When Superior Officers Injured

WITH THE SIXTH ARMY GROUP, FRANCE—When all the officers in his rifle company were either killed or wounded, First Sergeant Tenki C. Taba, then a corporal, took over and successfully led his battered company through some of the most bitter fighting in the French campaign.

During one of the fierce fire-fights which the 442nd Japanese American Combat Team encountered in their forward progress to rescue the Lost "Texas" Battalion, Sergeant Taba was knocked unconscious by the concussion from a mortar shell. Although he still felt the effects of the explosion when he was revived, he refused to be evacuated for medical treatment because of the company's shortage of men.

On the afternoon of the same day, the company commander, the last remaining officer, was killed while attempting to destroy the last road block that lay before the Lost Battalion. His death left Sergeant Taba the sole leader.

A few days later, when the company, now considerably reduced by advancing up a road, shell fragments from an artillery barrage tore the light pack from the sergeant's back and slightly wounded him. Again, knowing the critical need for every man, the Japanese American remained with his troops.

All through the following days of intense German artillery and mortar barrages, he led his men on nightly ration details to the rear.

One night he slept out on the open ground exposed to freezing weather and shellfire. He had given up his foxhole to one of his men who was ill. On another occasion, he spent half of the night alone reconnoitering a suitable supply route to the Battalion Command Post and returned with badly needed radio batteries.

Before coming to France, Sergeant Taba fought with his unit in the Italian campaign.

His father, Mr. Tenso Taba, lives in Crater Village, Labaina, Maui, Territory of Hawaii.

ment on 1 November 1944, in France. Pfc. Nobori, one of the radio men for Company "L", remained with his company command group throughout the company's attack on a hill to keep his commanding officer in constant contact with the battalion command post. On several occasions he exposed himself to enemy fire to crawl to his commanding officer to deliver important messages to him personally. When his radio became too weak to receive messages and the telephone line was ruptured by shellfire, he crept through the dense forest, under enemy fire for 500 yards, until he located and repaired the break in the wire."

BRONZE STAR MEDAL, to Pfc. Takashi Wada, Monterey, California—"... for heroic achievement on 6 November 1944, in France. When a boulder rolled over his comrade's slit trench, painfully crushing him and leaving him partly exposed to enemy fire, Pfc. Wada and another rifleman attempted to extricate him. In spite of the continuous mortar and artillery barrage, he and the other rifleman, not wishing to expose others to the enemy fire, worked alone until they succeeded in freeing the injured man from the crushing weight; while his companion went in search of a litter, Pfc. Wada administered first aid to the injured man, and upon his comrade's return evacuated the patient to the aid station for further treatment."

BRONZE STAR MEDAL, to Pvt. Harry J. Terasaki, Exeter, California—"... for heroic achievement during the assault on Biffontaine, France, on 22 October 1944. Pvt. Terasaki was a member of a 7-man patrol which crossed two streets under hostile observation and fire and succeeded in capturing an enemy strong-point, killing three and capturing eight of its defenders. In addition, two vehicles equipped with radios, and one loaded with rifles, were captured. That night the group was counter-attacked by the enemy in platoon strength, supported by tanks and anti-tank. In the face of strong opposition offered by Pvt. Terasaki and the others the enemy was forced to withdraw."

Front-Line GIs Hold Medics In High Esteem

Bravery Under Fire Cited in Dispatch From 442nd Infantry

WITH THE SIXTH ARMY, FRANCE.—No group of men is held in higher esteem by the infantrymen of the 442nd Japanese American Combat Team than their own Medical Detachment. Working with the Combat Team in the French Alps along the Franco-Italian border, a sector of Lt. Gen. Jacob L. Devers' 6th Army Group front, the medics are accompanying the combat and reconnaissance patrols on hazardous mission through the Alpine wildernesses, always prepared to render service regardless of the situation.

They have always responded to the call of the wounded, though their response might mean death to themselves. This was particularly true during the desperate battles for the approaches to the Italian seaport of Leghorn. The Japanese American Combat Team suffered heavy losses from machine gun, mortar and artillery fire from prepared German positions. The fact that the wounded were often lying in the direct line of fire, or in the midst of artillery or mortar barrages, did not deter the company aid men of the medical detachment from crawling out to their aid, treating them and evacuating them to places of safety.

The riflemen still tell the story of the medic who crawled within 35 yards of an enemy artillery piece, hastily dressed a fallen doughboy's wounds and dragged the injured soldier over 75 yards to the protection of some shrubs.

In France the medics have administered blood plasma right on the battlefield, dressed wounds and applied tourniquets while artillery bursts showered shrapnel and broken branches around them, evacuated the wounded in the face of enemy small arms and machine gun fire. Once, when advance troops of one of the Japanese American battalions were cut off from the rest of the regiment, a litter team attempted to evacuate the more seriously wounded through enemy territory. Most of the team are now listed as missing in action.

The percentage of medical detachment men who have been decorated for gallantry in action is higher than any other section of the 442nd, which is recognized for its fighting qualities.

Medic Works At Job Despite Own Injury

WITH THE SIXTH ARMY GROUP, FRANCE—Although he himself was wounded, an American soldier of Japanese descent remained with his company for 36 hours to render aid to badly injured infantrymen.

Corporal Ryoji Terada, Los Angeles, a medical aid man with a forward rifle company, 442nd Japanese American Combat Team, was advancing with his unit when they were suddenly subjected to severe German artillery and mortar shelling. The initial barrage left many of his men badly injured. Corporal Terada himself was hit in the thigh.

Disregarding his painful wound, the Japanese American "medic" administered first aid to all of the wounded soldiers around him. Then, receiving word that the rifle company on his right was in need of a medical aid man, he immediately went to their aid.

Constantly exposed to German fire, the Los Angeles "medic" continuously treated patients. Finally, after remaining on duty for 36 hours after he was wounded, he allowed himself to be evacuated to the rear.

The Corporal's courage and devotion to duty helped save many of the injured infantrymen's lives.

CALLING All Chapters!

By Hito Okada

With advertising space requirements easing off since I temporarily stopped writing this column, inquiries from a few readers have prompted my return. More advertising and I will sign off again or take refuge in the JACL Reporter.

DONATIONS

Acknowledging the fact that one of my readers in Denver salutes me with "Simon Legree Okada," I am starting the column with my thanks to the people who have come to our assistance during the month of March up to the time of this writing. Alice Kiino \$1.50, New York City; Mrs. Rena B. Marten \$5.00, Lexington, Ky.; Miss Dorothea Richtberg \$1.00, New York City; F. E. Norman \$2.00, San Francisco; A. D. Bonas \$2.00, Seattle; T. Omori \$5.00, Layton, Utah; E. M. Tasman \$5.00, South Orange, New Jersey; Elizabeth J. Prideaux \$15.00, Portland, Ore.; Mrs. Alice Hirano \$5.00, Chicago; Nobu T. Kawai \$5.00, Dayton, Ohio; George J. Fox \$1.00, Salt Lake City; Milton Maeda \$2.00, Milwaukee, Wis.; Joe M. Kurihara \$1.50, Denver; Bert Watanabe \$5.00, Lihue, Kauai; Ken Utsonomiya \$1.50, Denver; Yoshiju Kimura \$5.00, Spokane, Wash.; Harry Sakata, \$1.50, Rev. John H. Hatt, \$5.00, Millis, Mass.; Bill Furuta \$3.00, Chicago; H. Takeshita \$15.00, Salt Lake City; Pansy Yasui \$1.50, Chicago; Mr. Sasaki, Lincoln Cafe \$25.00, Salt Lake City; Jiro Shiraki \$10.00, Salt Lake City; Si-bertus Y. Saito \$1.50, Madison, Wisconsin; Jojo Sugihara \$20.00, Denver.

I wish to specially thank the following soldiers from overseas for their contributions, totaling \$12.00. Sgt. Frank Morishita, T/5 Kenichi Ota, T/3 Satoru Sumamoto, T/3 Frederick Hirano, T/4 John Otani, T/Sgt. Don Oka, T/3 Steve Yagi, and S/Sgt. Shunji Hamano.

Teiko Ishida in our San Francisco office reports an anonymous contribution for \$10.00, earmarked for Old Folk's Relocation Assistance and also a \$5.00 donation from Mr. S. Hoshide of Salt Lake City for San Francisco office expenses.

Some goodly chunks of money have been coming in from our chapters lately such as, Sacramento \$500.00, Arizona \$200.00, Pocatello \$1,000.00, Boise Valley \$150.00 and Salt Lake \$957.00

APOLOGIES

We wish to take this belated opportunity to apologize to our staff in the Chicago office, Miss Katherine Sasaki of Dayton, and Kay Nishimura of Cleveland. Inadvertently, bills were sent out to people who had already paid for their greetings in the PC Holiday issue. We are sorry these and many other errors occurred in our Holiday issue, but we hope to learn by such experiences.

CHAPTER DUES

The National Chapter dues have been brought back to pre-war standard, so that the 1945 Chapter dues are \$10.00. However there seems to be no rush to take advantage of the reduction by the chapters. Treasurers please note and send me a check for \$10.00.

JACL PINS

We still have JACL pins for \$2.00. It is an attractive pin similar to the emblem on the masthead of the PC. It is finished in gold with the shield finished in red, white and blue enameled colors. Chapters could use these pins for awards and prizes.

KOREMATSU BRIEF

We have received a number of orders for the JACL brief in the Korematsu case. The book is in type but has not been printed as yet because of crowded schedules at the printshop. It should be ready for distribution soon, however.

Dr. Adam Bennion Addresses JACL

MURRAY, Utah—Dr. Adam S. Bennion, special guest speaker, addressed the Mt. Olympus chapter of the JACL at its last meeting, held March 23. Musical selections by Betty Cone and Marian Hintze and dancing completed the program.

WRA Modifies Policy on Visits To War Relocation Centers

Relocates Will Be Allowed Two Visits Not To Exceed 30 Days

WASHINGTON—A modification of the present policy governing visits to relocation centers, effective April 16, allows relocates two visits not to exceed an accumulative total of 30 days, according to an announcement by WRA Director Dillon S. Myer.

The new regulation, also eliminate the previous requirements for advance approval for visits to the centers.

Another feature of the adjusted policy is the provision for application to the Project Director for the refund of all guest charges if a visitor has accomplished or scheduled the relocation of other family members during his stay at the center.

The altered ruling is intended to permit as free a movement as possible of center visitors consistent with the necessity for conserving the resources of the agency and of transportation facilities, during the liquidation process, in order to give maximum service to the greatest number of center residents.

An evacuee may divide the allotted 30 days between his two visits in any way he desires. An emergency involving the death or serious illness of an immediate family member will permit a visitor to come to the project without having the period of the emergency charged against his visiting time.

While advance permission is no longer necessary under the new plan, District Relocation Offices and cooperating agencies will encourage those planning visits to consult the appropriate field offices first. The prospective visitor may take advantage of local facilities as aids in his family plan.

In addition to health emergencies, others excluded from the limitations on time and number of visits are: (1) members of the armed forces on active status or in the Enlisted Reserve; (2) persons conducting official business with a center, such as relocates seeking to hire center residents for outside employment, and (3) students who have not completed courses and who present letters from authorized officials of colleges, trade or high schools vouching for their enrollment. These students will be permitted a 90-day stay, to be counted as one visit.

Visits beyond the 30-day limit may be extended by the Project Director up to 30 additional days, if a relocation plan is definitely in process for the visitor's family members, and the Project Director is satisfied that the plan can be

completed through an extension of time.

Applications for exceptions to the regulations should be made well in advance through the field Relocation office. The Director must approve such exceptions. Except in extreme emergencies, no one will be admitted pending application for a third visit.

If an evacuee attempts to enter or remain at a center without permission or obtains permission through fraud or misrepresentation, he will be required to leave immediately. Such a person will thereafter be ineligible for further relocation assistance grants and transportation of property, unless the Director, or recommendation of the Project Director, approves an exception.

Charges for meals and lodging will be made to all non-resident evacuees except the following: vacationing students on 90-day visits; members of the Enlisted Reserve Corps; relocated evacuees, who, after pre-induction physical examinations have not yet been inducted or placed in the ERC (these men, however, are subject to the visiting time limitations); and members of the armed services on active status, who will be charged for board but not for lodging. Guest charges are payable in advance for the estimated or authorized duration of the visit. Refunds will be made for unused payments.

Policy on reinductions to centers and transfers between centers remains unchanged. No readmissions will be permitted because of ill health or inability to make an adjustment in an outside community. Instead, the Area Relocation Officer will assist in solving problems incident to relocation.

Fresno County Asked to Provide Aid to Evacuees

FRESNO, Calif.—Mrs. Minette Gutzler, director of the Fresno county welfare department, requested the board of supervisors on March 27 for authorization to make cash grants to needy persons of Japanese ancestry returning from relocation centers.

She explained a federal ruling makes it necessary such grants be made, with the government later reimbursing the county.

"We soon are going to be faced with the problem of these evacuees returning to Fresno County," said Mrs. Gutzler, "and no fund has been set up to make such grants."

She pointed out that before the war Fresno county had few persons of Japanese ancestry in the relief rolls and most of them were aged and persons who fell victim to disease.

Vital Statistics

BIRTHS

To Mr. and Mrs. M. Kamifuji, 17-3-F, Rohwer, a girl on March 17.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hiroshi Yamaoka, 38-3-D Rhower, a girl on March 19.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hiroshi Nakai, 7104-D, Tule Lake, a boy on March 8.

To Mr. and Mrs. Yoshio Furukawa, 1316-C, Tule Lake, a girl on March 10.

To Mr. and Mrs. Satoshi Hashikuni, 5302-E, Tule Lake, a girl on March 10.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hajime Nakano, 5113-D, Tule Lake, a girl on March 10.

To Mr. and Mrs. Yoshio Nehira, 1206-B, Tule Lake, a girl on March 10.

To Mr. and Mrs. Masao Hatano, 5711-F, Tule Lake, a girl on March 10.

To Mr. and Mrs. Minoru Esaki, 3304-D, Tule Lake, a boy on March 12.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hisashi Ozaki, 7715-G, Tule Lake, a boy on March 12.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hiroshi Ogino, 6702-B, Tule Lake, a girl on March 13.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hisashi Hayano, 4417-D, Tule Lake, a girl on March 14.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kiyota Mishiima, 3701-D, Tule Lake, a girl on March 15.

To Mr. and Mrs. Jinsoo Tamura, 1418-F, Tule Lake, a girl on March 15.

To Mr. and Mrs. Toshio Tanabe, 8406-D, Tule Lake, a boy on March 15.

To Mr. and Mrs. Masami Adachi, 8312-B, Tule Lake, a girl on March 16.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kazuto Miyamura, 4618-B, Tule Lake, a boy on March 19.

To Mr. and Mrs. James Oka, 1917-B, Tule Lake, a boy on March 19.

To Mr. and Mrs. Tadao Shiramoto, 1116-A, Tule Lake, a girl on March 20.

To Mr. and Mrs. Minoru Hara, 3719-C, Tule Lake, a girl on March 20.

To Mr. and Mrs. Tadashi Fukumoto, 8113-GH, Tule Lake, a girl on March 21.

To Mr. and Mrs. George Eichi Nakao, 5816-F, Tule Lake, a boy on March 22.

To Mr. and Mrs. Tadanori Ito, 1907-C, Tule Lake, a boy on March 22.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hideo Nakashimo, 8202-A, Tule Lake, a boy on March 22.

To Mr. and Mrs. Tokito Okura, 3919-D, Tule Lake, a girl on March 22.

To Mr. and Mrs. Masami Onodera, 3807-A, Tuel Lake, a girl on March 22.

To Mr. and Mrs. Shigeru Shimazu, 8407-D, Tule Lake, a girl on March 24.

To Mr. and Mrs. Shinichi Sugimoto, 7915-CD, Tule Lake, a boy on March 24.

To Mr. and Mrs. Naoto Morimoto, 1919-D, Tule Lake, a boy on March 24.

To Mr. and Mrs. Frank Morita, 35-3-CD, Topaz, a boy on March 22.

To Mr. and Mrs. Tomekichi Tom Yamashita, 29-6-D, Topaz, a boy on March 22.

To Mr. and Mrs. Genshiro Suye-

tsugu, 41-1-C, Topaz, a girl on Mar. 25.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kazuo Arai a girl, Susan, on March 31 in Salt Lake City.

To Mr. and Mrs. Yukito Itao, 12H-12A, Granada, a girl on Mar. 21.

To Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Minami, 20-4-D, Rohwer, a boy on Mar. 25.

To Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Masuda, 28-5-C, Ht. Mountain, a boy on Mar. 24.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kizo Furiya, 28-24-D, Ht. Mountain, a girl on Mar. 25.

To Mr. and Mrs. Rosie Matsui, 15-4-E, Ht. Mountain, a girl on Mar. 26.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hiroshi Miyashita, 9-23-C, Ht. Mountain, a boy on Mar. 28.

To Mr. and Mrs. Rio Fukuda, 29-19-D, Ht. Mountain, a girl on Mar. 28.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hiromi Inouye, 8-3-E, Ht. Mountain, a girl on Mar. 28.

To Mr. and Mrs. George Tani, 24-1-A, Ht. Mountain, a boy on Mar. 29.

To Mr. and Mrs. William Sumi, 2-10-C, Rohwer, a girl on March 27.

To Pvt. and Mrs. Seizo Cory Kubota a boy on March 28 at Caldwell, Idaho.

To Mr. and Mrs. John Teshima, 31-C, Poston, a girl on Mar. 27.

To Mr. and Mrs. Mutsuo Fujisawa, 317-4-A, Poston, a boy on Mar. 27.

To Mr. and Mrs. Frank Tatsuo Yamane, 309-8-C, Poston, a girl on Mar. 27.

To Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Tajiri, 528 West Oakdale, Chicago, a girl, Caryn Yuriko, on April 4.

DEATHS

Ikuye Yokoyama, 8 mos., 905-BC, Tule Lake, on March 20.

Shinsuke Sugimoto, 11G-2E, Granada, on March 24.

Umesaku Ohama, 61, of 6D-1E, Granada, on March 16.

Mrs. Raku Namura, 7F-6F, Granada, age 62, on March 19.

Hirobe Kusakai, 55, of 20-7-F, Rohwer, on March 26.

Yoshikiku Okamoto, 51, of 34-6-C, Rohwer, on Mar. 27.

Nancy Ogawa, 2, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Ogawa, 10-1-C, Topaz, on March 25 at Tooele.

MARRIAGES

Tazuko Washino to Motoyuki Takahashi on March 17 in Minneapolis.

Emiko Yamada to Pvt. Kenji Ota on March 21 in Salt Lake City.

Emiko Jiguchi to Sus Kawamoto on March 28 in Billings, Mont.

Tomi Kitahara to Tommy Tanaka on March 24 at Minneapolis.

Suzu Koriyama to Capt. Kiyoshi Kuramoto on April 25 at Fort Snelling, Minn.

Mrs. Sueno Tsuji to Katsutaro Kono on March 19 at Rohwer.

Uichi Izumi to Tomiko Kuromiya on March 12 at Tule Lake.

Yoshitaka Murakami to Jun Shimizu on March 24 at Tule Lake.

Masaji Yamamoto to Chiyoko Kumai on March 24 at Tule Lake.

Survey Shows Gain in Nisei Land Holdings

Unincorporated Areas In Tulare County Covered in Study

VISALIA, Calif. — Land holdings by Americans of Japanese ancestry in Tulare County unincorporated areas have increased slightly since Pearl Harbor, a survey by the District Attorney's office has disclosed, it was announced on April 3.

Of 4000 estimated residents of Japanese ancestry in Tulare county in 1942, there were 109 individuals and partnerships owning 3484 acres. As of March 1, 1945, there were 94 Americans of Japanese ancestry owning 3496 acres. Leases which in 1942 included 72 persons of Japanese ancestry renting 3242 acres have entirely disappeared as a result of the evacuation.

Mitsumasa Sakata to Shizuko Kiyama on March 17 at Tule Lake.

Koichi Okamoto to Sadako Yamauchi on March 17 at Tule Lake.

Kiyoshi Yamamoto to Kazue Fujii on March 17 at Tule Lake.

Tomiko Ozaki to Katsumi Fukumoto on March 1 at Tule Lake.

Taeko Hoshiwara to Hitoshi Taniguchi on March 1 at Tule Lake.

Haruko Tamura to Takeshi Nakatsuka on March 3 at Tule Lake.

Kiyoto Hamasaki to Emi Tsujimoto on March 8 at Tule Lake.

Nobuye Daijogo to Shizuto Sakahara at Tule Lake.

Betty Hidekawa to Fred Toguchi on March 9 in Webster Groves, Mo.

Eiko Hosoi to Hiro Katayama on March 25 in Webster Groves, Mo.

Lucille Yoshiko Nitta to George Watanabe at Hunt, Idaho.

Haruko Sakata to Kumakichi Katayama on March 15 at Rohwer.

Makiko Yamamoto to Hirouki Nakaji on March 15 at Poston.

Fusaye Jean Nambe to Tooru Takamatsu on Feb. 3 in Manzanar.

Tomiko Yoshinaga to Takamu Sato on Feb. 10 at Manzanar.

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

Misako Takahashi to Tom Takahashi on March 20 at Poston.

Kiyoko Okamoto to Katsuyoshi Ohara on March 17 at Gila River.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Haruo Tsubahara and May Mitsuko Baba of Salt Lake City.

Fujiko Hoshitsume, 22, and Hideo Oshiyama, 27, in Ogden, Utah, on March 23.

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Cannon Company Gives Close Support to Front-Line Forces

Artillery Bad News For Germans During Fighting in Italy

WITH THE SIXTH ARMY GROUP, FRANCE — Giving the front-line doughboys of the 442nd Japanese American Infantry Regiment close, continuous and mobile artillery support, a cannon company of that unit is directing fire against enemy positions in the Alps along the Franco-Italian border.

Part of Lt. Gen. Jacob L. Devers' 6th Army Group, the 442nd cannon company is participating in tough, mountain warfare by covering advancing patrols and disorganizing enemy attempts to attack strategic outposts. Forward observers, the "eyes" of this artillery, often have to run the gauntlet of enemy fire in taking positions of advantage in the high, wind-swept crags.

Throughout the Italian campaign, the company's artillery was bad news for the Krauts. In one day of fighting, it knocked out six enemy 88 mm. and 75mm. guns. The 105 mm. howitzers of the company played an important part in the 442nd's crossing of the Arno River, carving a path through enemy troops, and machinegun, mortar and artillery positions.

In France, the company gave

constant support to Japanese American infantrymen spearheading the Seventh Army's drive toward Germany. Aiding in the rescue of World War II's famous "Lost Battalion," nine out of 13 of its men directly participating were wounded.

"At times the going has been extremely rough, but the men have never failed to outdo themselves in surmounting any obstacle in their path," said Captain Edwin R. Shorey, Madison, Wis., company commander.

Rohwer Evacuees Charter Coach To California

ROHWER, Ark. — A special California-bound coach with 58 Rohwer residents aboard was scheduled to leave here for Sacramento on March 28, according to the Rohwer Outpost.

Twenty members of the party were headed for Fresno, twelve for Madera, six for Los Angeles, five each to Sacramento, Hanford and Ogden, Utah, four to Lodi and one to Elk Grove. Aside from those leaving the train at Ogden, the entire party was to remain intact until the coach reached Sacramento.

Topaz Farm Equipment Will Be Put Soon On Public Sale

TOPAZ, Utah—Farmers of Japanese ancestry are expected to participate in the bidding for farm equipment used at the Topaz relocation center which will go on public sale on April 14 at 11 a. m.

The sale of the farm equipment will be under government regulations governing disposal of surplus commodities and all bids must be entered by established dealers in such equipment, it was stated.

The equipment will be ready for inspection on April 12 and 13 at the Topaz project.

Project Director Luther Hoffman indicated this week that any evacuees or other persons of Japanese ancestry who visit the center to inspect the farm equipment will be expected to provide their own room and board outside the center. The visit will not be charged against the evacuees as a regular visit to the center under the new WRA regulations regarding such visits. Visitors, other than persons of Japanese ancestry, are also expected to arrange for their own room and board outside the project.

Evacuee Student Honored by Class

MILWAUKEE, Wis. — Honors came again this week to Eichi Shibata, 17, formerly of the Central Utah Project, when he was elected vice - president of the senior class at West Division High School.

This past spring, Eichi, who is the son of Mr. and Mrs. I. Shibata of 28-7-E, Central Utah, was elected senior class representative at Central High School in Madison, but could not accept the office because of his transfer to Milwaukee.

Eichi's brother, Keiji, is an eighth grade student at the Wisconsin Avenue School. The two boys make their home in Milwaukee with relatives, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Ochi, San Francisco and Central Utah.

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COUPLE WANTED FOR FARM AND HOME — Middle - aged white couple in southern Mississippi wishes Japanese American couple to share home and farm and aid in carrying on duties. Renumeration dependent on production of farm crops. If this sounds like a future in which you might be interested write Mrs. Mayo Tolman, Route 1, Picayune, Miss.

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Nisei War Hero Returns Home To Layton on 30-Day Furlough

LAYTON, Utah—An American soldier hero of Japanese ancestry was home on furlough this week from France.

He is Pfc. Kozo Yamane of the 442nd (Japanese American) Infantry Regiment. He is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Yamane of Layton.

While with the famous Japanese American unit in their drive northward with the Fifth Army from Rome to and across the Arno river, he was wounded during the battle for Hill 140, near Il Terichio, because he insisted on going out after an injured comrade. A first gunner on a machine gun squad, he left his protected emplacement to rescue a fellow soldier who had been wounded by enemy artillery. Though wounded himself in the process, he dragged his buddy to safety before permitting himself to be evacuated to a hospital.

Pfc. Yamane returned to action against the German enemy during the historic breakthrough of the Seventh Army, spearheaded by the Japanese American Combat Team, in the Vosges mountains of northwestern France.

One day, while his heavy weapons platoon was attached to a rifle company that was attacking across some railroad tracks, Pfc. Yamane found himself ahead of his mates. He saw that the super-

ior-in-number Germans were going to launch a counter - attack against the American assault company. From his vantage point he started to fire away, trying to discourage the enemy before they fully exploited their greater numbers in the counter-attack.

In spite of Yamane's one-man efforts, the Germans attacked in force. Yamane remained at his threatened post, firing his machine gun with his left hand and a pistol with his right. At one time the Nazis were so close to his position that he could hear commands given by the German non-coms to their men.

Though subjected to machine pistol, automatic rifle and bazooka fire, he remained at his post, firing away so that his comrades could organize to repulse the attack. Though injured by shrapnel, he fought on until the enemy was driven back.

Capt. Christopher Keegan, commander of the heavy weapons company, selected Pfc. Yamane for his 30-day plus traveling time furlough back to the United States and his home in Layton, and stated that he did so because Yamane deserved the trip on his battle record.

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