

# PACIFIC CITIZEN



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## Pop's a Soldier, Too



SACRAMENTO, Calif.—Joyce Ann Kurisu, 3½ months old daughter of Mrs. Eunice Kurisu, howls noisily in answer to the greetings of South Pacific veterans in the background. Little Joyce Kurisu, one of the youngest persons aboard the special train which brought 425 persons from her birthplace, the Rohwer relocation center in Arkansas, to California, met the Yank combat veterans when the evacuee train stopped alongside a troop train at Sacramento. Joyce's father is a soldier, too.—(Acme Photo.)

## Federal Grand Jury Returns Indictment Against Brothers For Anti-Evacuee Dynamiting

### Watsons Face Charges Of Violation of Explosives Statutes

SACRAMENTO — James Watson, 38, and Claude P. Watson, 35, brothers of Auburn, Calif., were indicted on Aug. 6 by the federal grand jury in Sacramento in connection with the attempted dynamiting of the packing shed of Sumio Doi in Placer County.

The Watson brothers were indicted on two counts, illegal possession of dynamite and conspiracy. The first count carries a maximum penalty of one year in jail and a \$5,000 fine and the conspiracy count can result in a two-year federal penitentiary sentence and a \$10,000 fine.

Federal Judge Martin I. Welsh, issuing a bench warrant for the arrest of the Watson brothers, set bail for each at \$1,500.

A Placer County Superior Court jury on April 28 acquitted James Watson of dynamiting charges and similar counts against Claude Watson.

### Government's Case Based on Testimony from Soldier

SAN FRANCISCO — The government case against the two Watson brothers of Auburn, Calif., in connection with attempted dynamiting at the Doi ranch in Placer County on January 18 and 19, was based on a signed statement of a soldier who says he was an accomplice, U.S. Attorney Frank J. Hennessy announced last week.

Pvt. Elmer R. Johnson, 20, now prisoner at Camp Stoneman near Pittsburgh, gave federal authorities a detailed account of the attempted dynamiting of the Doi property, Hennessy said.

Watson were dismissed. James Watson was acquitted in July on charges of contributing to the delinquency of minors in a case growing out of the two terror raids on the Doi ranch. Watson, a bartender, had been charged with serving liquor to minors, among them two soldier brothers, Alvin J. and Elmer Johnson, both of whom were also acquitted by the Placer jury of the dynamiting and arson charges.

Federal authorities did not seek an indictment against the two soldiers who are facing Army court-martial for being absent without leave at the time of their alleged participation in the attack on the Doi ranch.

## Latest Fresno Incident Blamed On Hoodlums

FRESNO, Calif. — The Fresno police last week blamed "hoodlums" as responsible for an incident on July 31 when a .22 caliber bullet was fired into a garage owned by a returned American of Japanese ancestry.

The shooting occurred at a commercial garage owned by Tom Inouye of 829 Mayor Ave. No one was hurt as the garage at 1402 Kern St. was closed for the night.

Police reported that the shot evidently had been fired from a car parked at the curb about 20 feet east of the main entrance of the garage. The bullet smashed through the window hit a glancing blow on the cash register, shattered into three pieces and went through another window.

Inouye told police that neither he nor members of his family had been molested since their return to Fresno from the Rohwer, Ark., center.

## VFW Unit Asked to Review Rejection of Nisei Soldier

### Nisei Soldier Guards Bob Hope In German House

Bob Hope, film and radio star who is now touring the European area, declared last week in a daily column from Bremen, Germany, that he and his troupe are being guarded by an American soldier of Japanese ancestry.

"We are billeted here (Bremen) on a street called Marcus Allee," Hope wrote in his newspaper column. "It Says Here," adding that "we have the whole house with a guard, Pvt. Shige Morishige, who was wounded three times while fighting with the tough Japanese American 442nd Regiment in Italy."

"In between keeping us safe, Shig spends most of his time talking about what a great place his home town of Denver, Colo., is," Hope reported.

## Nisei Canadians Protest Press Ban on Troops

### Newspapers Told Not To Publish News of Nisei Soldiers

TORONTO, Ont.—The Japanese Canadian Committee for Democracy recently asked Prime Minister MacKenzie King of Canada to rescind a censorship directive issued to the Canadian press which had ordered that no information be released concerning the enlistment and activities of Canadians of Japanese ancestry in the Canadian Army.

The JCCD communication added that the directive was defeating the requirements of the Army for Japanese Canadian personal and the declared intentions of the Dominion government.

The Japanese Canadian group added that it had been informed that the Canadian Army "is desirous of recruiting a substantial number of men."

"With the absence of public information concerning the enlistment of the hundred and more persons (of Japanese ancestry) now in the services, every facility is not given to raise the additional required quota. Persons who would otherwise be anxious to enlist are plagued with feelings of doubt as to whether their service would be appreciated," the JCCD communication added.

The Japanese Canadians added that "continued racist propaganda" is hindering the enlistment of persons willing to enlist.

"Favorable information to these persons and to the public in general will be a definite aid to the Army in meeting its required quota of Japanese Canadian personnel," the JCCD concluded.

## WRA DIRECTOR PROTESTS ACTION OF VFW GROUP

WASHINGTON—Dillon S. Myer, national director of the War Relocation Authority, declared Aug. 7 that members of Post 51 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in Spokane should reconsider their rejection of Pfc. Richard Naito, wounded Japanese American veteran, for membership.

"I fully concur with Col. V. R. Miller's keen indignation," Mr. Myer said, "over the action taken by a minority of members of Post 51 in excluding Pfc. Naito from membership on the grounds of his ancestry. The real majority of Americans and of VFW members everywhere will, I feel sure, repudiate this act."

## Commander of 442nd Infantry Asks War Department Aid in Combatting Anti-Nisei Activity

### Rome Edition of Stars and Stripes Features Army Protest, Following Report of Snub of Wounded GI By Veterans of Foreign Wars Post in Spokane

ROME, Italy—Col. Virgil R. Miller of Winneconne, Wis., commander of the crack 442nd (Japanese American) Infantry Regiment, this week sought the aid of the War and Interior Departments in combatting discrimination in the United States against Japanese American war veterans.

Col. Miller was roused to action by a report of the rejection of an application of Pfc. Richard H. Naito of Spokane, Wash., a former member of the 442nd Regiment, for membership in Post No. 51 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in Spokane. Naito was seriously wounded while fighting in Italy with the 442nd Infantry.

Col. Miller sent bluntly-worded letters to U.S. Secretary of Interior Harold Ickes and to Assistant Secretary of War McCloy, protesting against discrimination against Nisei combat veterans.

Miller's letter to Commander Helbig of the Spokane VFW Post, along with Pfc. Naito's letter to the VFW Post and Fifth Army Commander Lieut. Gen. Lucian Truscott's recent praise for Japanese American soldiers, were published across five columns at the bottom of page one of the Star and Stripes on Aug. 6.

Pfc. Naito's letter to the VFW said:

"Twelve months ago on a hot day I was lying in the fields near Pisa, my right leg shattered by a German bullet . . . That day I didn't know whether I would ever set foot again on American soil.

"Today on American soil, thousands of miles away from Pisa, I have been wounded again by another weapon, hypocrisy or prejudice, call it what you will. Little did I expect that upon my return home to the people for whom I

fought and suffered I would be repudiated."

(An A. P. report from Rome declared that Stars and Stripes published its story under the headline, "VFW Post Snubs Nisei Soldier, Colonel Goes to Bat for Him." The A. P. reported that Col. Miller had also sent a letter to the Veterans Anti-Prejudice Committee at Baxter General Hospital, which was organized by 500 wounded veterans who support the Japanese American's effort to join the VFW post.)

(Ed. Note: Although Pfc. Naito was rejected by the vote of a small minority of the Spokane VFW post, he has been invited by many other veterans organizations, including VFW posts in Hawaii, to join. Meanwhile, the American Veterans Committee, a World War II organization, is inviting Nisei servicemen to join.)

Col. Miller wrote to Helbig: "When supposedly reputable organizations such as yours violate the principles and ideals for which we fight, these young Japanese Americans are not the only ones to wonder about our war aims."

"Millions in Europe and Asia, too, will learn of your action and question the sincerity of American policy and ideals."

## VFW Commander in Spokane Defends Vote Against Nisei

### Urges Organization of Separate Post for Japanese Americans

SPOKANE, Wash.—The membership of Spokane's Post No. 51 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) rejected the application of a wounded American soldier of Japanese ancestry for membership "for the good of the post," Commander Dean Helbig told the United Press on Aug. 6.

Advised by the United Press that Col. Virgil R. Miller, commander of the crack 442nd Infantry Regiment in Italy, to which the wounded Nisei soldier, Pfc. Richard H. Naito, had been attached, had written a letter asking Helbig "to correct this grave injustice," the VFW post commander declared there was no discrimination shown on the ballot.

Helbig said that the ballot on Pfc. Naito and Pvt. Thomas H. Imai, another Japanese American who was rejected for membership, "is final." He said that the two must wait another year before their application can be considered again.

The ballot upon the candidate in question was voted upon by regular proceedings, Helbig declared. Declaring that no discrimination was shown, Helbig explained that there were more than the required number of "black balls" to reject Naito's application.

Naito and Imai may make application for membership to another post or wait until a Japanese American post is formed in Spokane, Helbig said.

"Post 51 has endeavored to cooperate with the Japanese Americans in Spokane to organize a Japanese American post of the VFW in this city," he said, pointing out that a Negro post was established in Spokane a few years ago.

He said that the two Japanese Americans, both veterans of overseas service, were rejected because members who voted negatively apparently feared that upon the return of veterans from the South Pacific, "trouble would brew" in the clubrooms.

"The boys returning from the South Pacific will have no use for Japanese of any kind," Helbig said. "If they meet Japanese members in the clubrooms, anything might happen and we don't want trouble."

"Under the circumstances, we believe it is better this way—that a separate Japanese American post be formed rather than admit Nisei veterans to membership in Post 51."

## Veterans of 442nd Arrive at Beale

CAMP BEALE, Calif.—Looking forward to returning to their native Hawaii for the first time in nearly three years, 68 veterans of the 442nd (Japanese American) Combat Team arrived at Camp Beale on their way home from European battlefields this week.



## Japanese American Soldiers Take Active Part in Capture Of Philippine Summer Capital

**Nisei Specialists Attached to Illinois Division In Recent Pacific Campaigns; Others Reported in Action in Army Invasion of Island of Borneo**

American soldiers of Japanese ancestry with the 33rd (Illinois) Division participated in the capture of the Philippine summer capital at Baguio and in windup operations of the Northern Luzon campaign, the Pacific Citizen was informed this week.

The disclosures were made following the lifting of a veil of security censorship which has enveloped the work of Japanese American soldiers in the Philippines campaign.

Specially trained Nisei troops from the United States mainland and Hawaii were reported to have participated in every phase of the Philippines campaign from the time of the first landings on Leyte to the final destruction of the Japanese Army as an organized force on Luzon.

Meanwhile, another report received by the Pacific Citizen disclosed that Japanese American troops assigned to various U. S. Army units had taken part in the recent invasion of Borneo.

Master Sgt. Harry Fukuhara of Glendale, Calif., headed the special Japanese American "team" which has seen considerable action with the 33rd Division in Netherlands New Guinea and in the Luzon campaign, it was reported. Other Japanese Americans in the 33rd Division "team" were Staff Sgt. Tom N. Takata, Los Angeles; Staff Sgt. Shoji Ishii, San Francisco; Staff Sgt. Kitao Yamada, Pasadena; Staff Sgt. Toshi Ogawa, Oakland; Sgt. Tad Uriu, Pasadena; Staff Sgt. Ben Nakamoto, Sanger, Calif.; T/4 Barry Ishikawa, Sacramento; Sgt. Toshi Teramoto, Selma, Calif.; and Staff Sgt. Marshall Taira, Honolulu.

Sgt. Fukuhara and Sgt. Ishii both wear the Army's Bronze Star Medal with an oak leaf cluster, while Sgt. Takata wears the Bronze Star.

The report disclosed that similar Japanese American "teams" have been an important part of the 31st (Dixie) Division, which recently has been in action in southern Mindanao; the 32nd (Red Arrow) Division, Buna, Aitape in New Guinea and Leyte; and the 24th (Victory) Division, New Guinea, Leyte, Corregidor, Verde Island and Mindanao.

Two of the California Nisei in the 33rd Division, Sgts. Yamada and Ogawa, saw action in the Southwest Pacific with the first Marine Division at New Britain.

One of the Japanese Americans with the 33rd Division, Sgt. Terry Mizutani of Hawaii, was killed in action on New Guinea last year.

Meanwhile, the Washington Times Herald reported in an Aug. 2 dispatch from Honolulu that each American combat unit in the Pacific war has a Japanese American interpreter. The Times Herald correspondent noted that the "really effective things" that U. S. forces have done in persuading the enemy Japanese to surrender in the field have been accomplished by experts of intelligence units.

"This has been accomplished by shrewd . . . exchanges of offers in the wilderness battlefield, with our loyal Americans of Jap descent sitting down and patiently arguing with the holed-up enemy, swapping cigarettes and at times sitting for hours in the Jap caves urging surrender," the report said.

### Clubhouse Opened For Enlisted Men Of 522nd Battalion

WITH THE 522ND F. A. BATTALION IN GERMANY—A clubhouse has been organized for enlisted men of the 522nd Field Artillery Battalion, composed of American soldiers of Japanese ancestry, following plans approved by Lieut. Col. Baya M. Harrison, battalion commander.

The clubhouse is located on the second floor of the Cafe Engel, only a short distance from the Donauworth CP. Two large rooms and a bar has been set aside for the use of enlisted men of the 522nd.

Civilian waitresses will serve beer, coffee and tea, and ice cream. A radio will be installed.

### Three Nisei GIs Win Commissions In Burma-India

NEW DELHI, India—Three American soldiers of Japanese ancestry and one of Korean descent serving with United States forces in the Burma-India theater have won direct commissions, it was announced on Aug. 2.

The new Japanese American second lieutenants are Teichiro Hirata, Honolulu, now on duty in Burma-India headquarters in New Delhi; Ken Tagami, Kingsburg, Calif., and Ryo Arai, Riverside, Conn., who are in the field.

The Korean American is Kyusul Lee of Honolulu, T. H.

### Tulare Group Acts to Stop Evacuee Return

#### Mass Deportation of Group Demanded at Woodlake Meeting

WOODLAKE, Calif. — Opposition to the return of evacuees of Japanese ancestry to Woodlake and other parts of Tulare county was expressed to a mass meeting on the night of Aug. 3 in the park fronting the forestry headquarters.

A crowd estimated at 100 persons were present to hear E. B. Homer, Paloma district citrus grower, declare that "ethnologically, socially and economically, the Japanese are a liability rather than an asset" to a community.

Homer, the main speaker, demanded the deportation of all persons of Japanese ancestry.

"It is not wise," he declared, "to send the Japanese back here—especially at this time when feeling is so strong against them."

A petition calling on the government to keep persons of Japanese ancestry out of California was circulated after the meeting.

W. M. Peterson, chairman of the meeting, said that a similar meeting will be held on the night of Aug. 15 at Visalia high school.

## Two Hawaii Nisei GIs Cited For Escape from Nazi Captors

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY, ITALY—Privates Torao J. Yamamoto and Genzo Toguchi of Honolulu, Hawaii, recently were awarded Bronze Stars for heroic achievement in action during the Italian campaign.

They served on the Fifth Army front with the 442nd Japanese American Combat Team and were decorated by Colonel V. R. Miller, regimental commander, at a ceremony in Lecco.

Yamamoto and Toguchi were cited for escaping from their German captors and returning to friendly lines with valuable information on the enemy.

Members of a six-man ration detail, they were carrying water to a rifle company when they were ambushed and captured by a German platoon, backed up by four machine guns. On their way to the rear, Yamamoto, Toguchi and their comrades overpowered their three guards and escaped but not before they had noted many features of Nazi forts, ammunition dumps and general disposition of the enemy troops.

As a result of this information, all the German installations and

## Pacific War Veterans Cheer Returning Rohwer Evacuees

SAN FRANCISCO—Army combat veterans, returning to the Pacific Coast from service in the Pacific war theater, cheered returning evacuees of Japanese ancestry when their train stopped opposite the evacuee train from the Rohwer, Ark., center at a junction, WRA officials reported last week.

Bob Allison, assistant relocation officer at Rohwer, who accompanied the group, reported no untoward incident as the train traveled across the country from Rohwer to Los Angeles.

At one point on the journey, Allison reported, the Rohwer train stopped opposite a troop train carrying servicemen en route home from the South Pacific. Seeing the people of Japanese ancestry, Allison reported the servicemen yelled:

"Hey! Where ya going?"

"Back to our homes in California," an evacuee replied.

"Well, we're going back to ours in New York and if we have a right to go to ours there, you have a right to go to yours in California," a soldier shouted back.

## Major Fukuda Given Command Of 100th Infantry Battalion

**Becomes First Japanese American to Lead Infantry Battalion in History of U. S. Army; Previously Commanded Company of 100th Unit**

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY, Italy—When Major Mitsuyoshi Fukuda, former Konawaena, Hawaii, high school teacher, was appointed commanding officer of the 100th Battalion, 442nd Japanese American Combat Team, he became the first American of Japanese ancestry to command an infantry battalion in the history of the United States Army.

Previously in Italy, he had led a rifle platoon as a first lieutenant and commanded a company as a captain.

Fukuda was commissioned after completing the Reserve Officers' Training Course at the University of Hawaii and entered active service a week after Pearl Harbor, joining the 100th on its activation.

He led his company E rifle platoon in the breakout after the Salerno landings and, after participating in the crossings of the Rapido and Volturno Rivers, he was promoted to captain and given command of Company A in December, 1943.

Fukuda led his company throughout its major action in Italy and was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action. His battalion also received the Distinguished Unit Citation.

Fukuda was commended personally by General Mark W. Clark, then commander of the Fifth Army, and other high ranking Mediterranean Theater officers for his leadership, ability and courage.

Returning from a leave to the United States, he rejoined the unit in the French Maritime Alps and was appointed executive officer of the 100th.

When the unit came back to Italy to participate in the final Fifth Army campaign, he led a "Fukuda Task Force" on a two-day mission through enemy territory and secured the strategic town of Aulla.

His wife, Mrs. Toshiya Fukuda, and son, David, 16 months old, live at 2457 North 49th street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The major's brother, Private Yoshinori Fukuda, is stationed in the states.

### COMMANDS 100th



MAJOR MITSUYOSHI FUKUDA of Hawaii, the first American of Japanese ancestry to command an infantry combat battalion in the history of the U. S. Army, is the new commanding officer of the famous 100th Infantry Battalion of the 442nd Combat Team. Major Fukuda's wife and child now reside in Milwaukee, Wis.

### Wounded Veteran, Now Discharged, Will Enter School

MILWAUKEE, Wis.—The Veterans Administration this week approved the application of Tokio Shiomichi, first disabled Nisei veteran to resume civilian life in Milwaukee, for further education under the GI Bill of Rights. Shiomichi will most likely enroll at Carroll College at Waukesha, Wisconsin, where he has already been accepted.

A former resident of Brawley, California, Shiomichi was one of the first volunteers from the Colorado River Project. He was wounded in action in Italy. His wife is the former Miss Carol Yamamoto of Ewa, Hawaii, and Colorado River.

### Wounded Sergeant Returns by Plane

MADISON Wis.—Back from France by plane S/Sgt. Taka F. Okada, formerly of Seattle, reported recently at Fort Sheridan, Illinois, for separation from the army.

## Army Statement Allays Fears, Says Official

**Responsibility for Return of Evacuees Held by Military**

SAN FRANCISCO—R. B. Cozens, assistant director of the War Relocation Authority, declared here last week that the statement of Maj. Gen. H. C. Pratt, chief of the Western Defense Command, that the Army has sole responsibility for determining which persons of Japanese ancestry may return to the West Coast and that these determinations will be based on military considerations only, should allay the fears of those who have misgivings over the return of evacuees of Japanese ancestry.

"The WRA has been the target of attacks by persons who were knowingly or unknowingly whipping up racial antagonism while actually we have never had the responsibility of determining who shall be relocated," Mr. Cozens declared.

The WRA official added that "More than 20,000" Japanese Americans are in U. S. uniforms while thousands of others are in war plants.

"They are loyal Americans and Gen. Pratt has clearly stated the extent to which his command has gone to screen these persons," Cozens added.

### Santa Monica Nisei Wins Bronze Star

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY, ITALY—Private First Class Katsutoshi Sano, 42, of Santa Monica, California, recently was awarded the Bronze Star for meritorious service in combat in France before his unit returned to participate in the final Fifth Army campaign in Italy.

He serves with the 442nd Japanese American Combat Team and was decorated by Colonel V. R. Miller, regimental commander, at a ceremony in Lecco, Italy.

Sano was a member of Company K, leading element of the 442nd when the combat team was given the mission of rescuing the "Lost Battalion" of the 141st Infantry. Bazookamen were called to neutralize the firepower of a counter-attacking German force, led by a tank. Sano laid down a withering fire with his Garand rifle and the effective protection he offered enabled the bazookamen to advance and put the tank out of action.

Sano was wounded by a sniper during the action.

In addition to the Bronze Star and Purple Heart, he wears the European Theater Ribbon with four battle stars, the Combat Infantryman Badge and Good Conduct Medal. His wife resides at 3701 Prescott Avenue, Lincoln, Nebraska.

### 537 EVACUEES HAVE RETURNED TO OREGON AREA

PORTLAND, Ore.—The Oregon office of the War Relocation Authority reported last week that 537 Japanese Americans and Japanese aliens have returned to the State's exclusion area since the relaxation of the Army's order.

The number cited was a gain of 177 since the last report on June 13. An estimated 4,000 persons of Japanese ancestry were evacuated from Oregon.

Of the total, 378 have returned to Multnomah county, 88 to Hood River county, 53 to Clackamas, 1 to Washington, 6 to Marion, 4 to Klamath and one to Clatsop county.

### Federal Worker Reports for Army

MADISON, Wis.—William Shimasaki, son of Mr. and Mrs. Utaro Shimasaki, Route 3, Madison, reported for active duty at Fort Sheridan, Illinois, on August 1. Until his induction, Shimasaki was an employee of the local office of the Geological Survey, U. S. Department of Interior. The Shimasaki family is from Auburn, Washington, and the Heart Mountain War Relocation Project.



## Nisei Officer Is Adjutant of 442nd Infantry

Lieut. Kobayashi  
Commissioned During  
Recent Offensive

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY, ITALY — Second Lieutenant Thomas M. Kobayashi of Phoenix, Arizona, recently was appointed adjutant of the 442nd Japanese American Combat Team, part of the Fifth Army in Italy.

He was commissioned from chief warrant officer during the spring offensive which resulted in the unconditional surrender of all German forces in Italy. Kobayashi had been appointed warrant officer (junior grade) while serving at Fort Riley, Kansas.

A graduate of Pasadena Junior College, Pasadena, California, he was attending the University of Southern California when he entered the army November 18, 1940. After serving at Fort MacArthur and Fort Rosecrans, California, Kobayashi became post sergeant-major at Camp Sibert, Nevada, later being assigned to Forts Leavenworth and Riley in Kansas.

When the 442nd was activated at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, he was assigned as assistant adjutant, later becoming chief warrant officer.

Kobayashi wears the Bronze Star, the European Theater Ribbon with four battle stars and the Combat Infantryman Badge.

His mother, Mrs. Joe Kobayashi, resides in Huntleigh Village, St. Louis, Missouri.

## FIRST RFC LOAN RECEIVED BY NISEI EVACUEE

LOS ANGELES—One of the first RFC loans has now been approved for an evacuee, Mrs. Florence H. Muraoka of Rohwer 32-5-D. Mrs. Muraoka expects to return to her home in Southern California late in August.

She applied to RFC by mail last year for a substantial loan on her greenhouse business in Orange County.

Months went by, the local WRA office reported. But finally after WRA had contacted Washington headquarters of RFC again, the loan was at last approved by RFC's Los Angeles office.

It is believed that RFC will from now on consider loans to other evacuees on the same basis as loans to all its applicants.

## California County Seeks to Tax Sum Buried by Evacuee

BAKERSFIELD, Calif.—Ernest Takaki, former Delano druggist, will have to pay \$739.20 taxes on the \$12,000 he buried in his garage before leaving for a relocation center in 1942, if an attachment suit filed by County Assessor J. H. Banks is sustained.

Takaki returned last April to retrieve the cached fortune.

He declared at the time that he considered the money not taxable, because he already had been assessed for his drug store earnings which comprised the bulk of the \$12,000.

## San Jose CIO Unit Accepts Evacuees

SAN JOSE, Calif.—Four more evacuees, two Issei and two Nisei, have been accepted for membership in the local unit of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, CIO, and are now employed by the Security Warehouse and Cold Storage Co., in San Jose.

## 47-Year Old Veteran of Two Wars Returns from Iwo Jima

FORT SNELLING, Minn. — A 47-year old World War I veteran who landed with the Marine 4th Division on Iwo Jima returned from overseas duty to Fort Snelling last week.

The veteran of two World Wars, 2/3 James S. Yoshinobu, formerly of Gardena, Calif., was uncertain whether he would accept a discharge because of his age. He declared he would decide

## Sgt. Ben Kuroki Completes 27 Combat Missions in Superfort Over Japanese Territory

Tech. Sgt. Ben Kuroki of the Army Air Forces, the first Nisei to fly in combat in the Pacific war, has completed 27 missions as a tail gunner in a B-29 Superfortress, radio audiences were advised during a special interview with the Japanese American sergeant at a B-29 base on Tinian in the Marianas on Aug. 5. The interview was broadcast on the Army Air Forces program over the American Broadcasting Company's network.

Sgt. Kuroki, now attached to the 313th Bombardment Wing of the B-29 Command in the Marianas, is a veteran of 30 heavy bomber missions in the European theater of operations.

Sgt. Kuroki, a member of the first B-24 Liberator crews to serve in North Africa in 1942, is a veteran of bombing missions over Sicily, Italy, France, Germany and participated in the first raid on the Ploesti oil fields of Rumania. He completed his tour of duty in the European and Mediterranean theaters, flying 25 missions, and then volunteered for five additional missions. He narrowly escaped death on his 30th and last mission over Muenster, Germany.

The Japanese American sergeant noted that he was originally turned down when he requested combat action in the Pacific war and that he was not assigned to B-29 training until eight months after he had returned to the United States.

Sgt. Kuroki now has 128 discharge points, or 50 per cent more than the number necessary for a discharge under the Army's redeployment system.

Capt. James R. Jenkins, Sgt. Kuroki's commanding officer, who also was interviewed on the broadcast from the Marianas, admitted that he was a "little apprehensive" when the Japanese American was first assigned to his crew, but added that he had found

## Unused Army Housing May Be Utilized by WRA to Shelter Evacuees Returning to Coast

### Japanese Canadians Win Honors in Training Camp

TORONTO, Ont.—The Japanese Canadian platoon which recently completed its basic training at Brantford "has won more pennants than any other in the history of the camp," the Japanese Canadian Committee for Democracy reported last week.

The JCCD was told by Lieut. Thomas of the Canadian Army, who that percentages of enlistments of Japanese Canadians in Ontario compared favorably with that of the total population. Lieut. Thomas added that additional Japanese Canadians were needed. Enlistments of Japanese Canadians were opened recently.

### War Veterans Enroll At Peoria School

PEORIA, Ill.—Three Nisei war veterans of overseas service are now students at the Bradley Horological School in Peoria.

They are Samuel Y. Umade, who spent a year in overseas duty in the Burma-India theater; Nobuyoshi Tamashiro, who served with the 100th Infantry Battalion in Italy; and Masui Kanichi, formerly of Lodi, Calif., who served in the Southwest Pacific.

about his future in the Army after he sees his family in Chicago.

Other overseas veterans who returned to Fort Snelling last week included T/4 Charles Mayeda of Loomis, Calif., who flew in from the Aleutians; Tech. Sgt. Patrick Nagano of San Luis Obispo, Calif., who arrived from Germany; and Tech. Sgt. Fred Odanaka, formerly of Los Angeles.

Sgt. Odanaka saw action with

## Evacuee Girl Killed in Auto Crash at Gila

Two Men Critically Injured, Others Hurt as Ambulance Overtakes

RIVERS, Ariz.—A 22-year old evacuee girl was killed and two men were critically injured on July 27 when a hospital ambulance overturned on the road between the Canal and Butte camps of the Gila River relocation center near Fox Butte. Five others were given medical treatment.

Meiko Kurakasu, 22, of 34-11-A, a medical stenographer, was killed instantly. Hajime Nishimoto and Herbert Sugiyama were seriously wounded.

Others given hospital treatment were Mits Hazama, dislocated shoulder, and, Katsumi Yahata, Yuriko Seiji, Lillian Mori and Shizuko Takeda, all suffering from shock.

Wallace Yamamura was reported to have been driving the ambulance at the time of the accident.

Sgt. Kuroki to be completely American.

### San Francisco Paper Says Officials Doubt Facilities Sufficient

SAN FRANCISCO — An agreement whereby unused Army housing facilities will be made available to evacuees of Japanese ancestry returning from war relocation centers has been effected in Washington, the San Francisco Chronicle reported on Aug. 3.

The Army units will be of a dormitory nature. Arrangements must be made for feeding the tenants, it was reported.

The Chronicle reported that efforts are being made to get War Relocation Authority officials in Washington to accept "a more realistic attitude" toward the housing situation in the San Francisco area.

The Chronicle noted that local officials were doubtful that sufficient facilities would be found to meet the needs of returning evacuees, 4,000 of whom are at the Topaz center in Utah and are expected to return to the San Francisco area before the closing of the center on Nov. 1.

The Chronicle said that an effort is being made to interest the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce in the problem. According to the newspapers, the officials stressed that there was no opposition to the return of the evacuees to the community, but that fear was felt that many of them will be unable to obtain housing and will suffer new hardships if the camps are closed on specified dates before other arrangements can be made.

Under arrangements reportedly made by the WRA with the Army, the Federal Housing Administration will manage the facilities for the WRA when they are made available by the Army.

Already about 400 evacuees have returned to San Francisco and officials estimate that about 3,000 of the 6,000 who originally resided in the city will return.

the 25th Infantry Division on Guadalcanal, the Northern Solomons and later on Luzon. His wife and child are now residing in Minneapolis.

## Japanese American Officer Tracks Down Enemy Guerrilla Leader in Okinawa Campaign

FORT SNELLING, Minn.—A Japanese American officer, Lieut. Wallace S. Amioka of Honolulu, T. H., recently was credited by Gen. Joseph Stillwell with spotting and causing the death of a former Japanese Army commander who became the leader of all enemy guerrilla forces on Okinawa, according to reports here.

Lieut. Amioka is a graduate of the school Battalion at Fort Snelling.

### NISEI OFFICER



LIEUT. WALLACE AMIOKA of Honolulu, Hawaii, officer in charge of a language team with the U. S. 10th Army on Okinawa, is shown pointing to a cave on Northern Okinawa where Japanese Navy men were hidden. Lieut. Amioka was one of the leaders of a U. S. Army patrol which recently tracked down the leader of Japanese guerrilla forces on Okinawa. (U. S. Army photo from Hawaii Times.)

### Granada Evacuee Car Leaves for Eastern Points

AMACHE, Calif.—"Back to California" is not the ambition of all residents of the Granada relocation center it was declared this week as the camp's first special chair-car left on Aug. 6 for eastern points.

Destination of families aboard the train were Boys Town, Neb., Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Chicago and Bridgeton, New Jersey.

Two special cars are expected to leave for California points during the coming week.

### Suicide of Evacuee Blamed on Worries Over Business

LOS ANGELES — Authorities last week ascribed the suicide death of Seiichiro Nagamori, 53, of 3060 St. George Ave., on Aug. 2 to worry over the state of his insurance business.

Mr. Nagamori owned his own home, to which he and his wife returned recently from the Heart Mountain relocation center, but found it difficult to reestablish his business, as former clients are now scattered and many are still in relocation centers.

## Report Nisei C. O. Punished For Protest Against Jim Crow

NEW YORK—Fourteen conscientious objectors, including three Negroes, ten whites and one American of Japanese ancestry, were thrown into solitary confinement two months ago at the Federal Correctional Institution in Ashland, Ky., after they refused to eat in the prison's mess hall as long as Jim Crow seating was practiced there, the newspaper, PM, reported on Aug. 2.

PM stated that Rep. Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., D., N. Y., has asked U. S. Attorney General Tom Clark for the government's policy on segregation of Negro and white prisoners on Federal insti-

tutions as a result of the incident. Twelve of the men, including the Japanese American, still are in solitary. Two others, both Negroes, have been transferred to another prison.

The Ashland strike is the first reported against Jim Crow in a Southern Federal prison.

Edward Dudley, assistant special counsel for the National Association for Advancement of Colored People, has written Warden Hagerman of Ashland prison, pointing out that even in Nazi prisoner-of-war camps the chief propagandists of race superiority did not practice racial segregation of American prisoners.

### CAPTAIN USHIRO CITED FOR AID TO WOUNDED TROOPS

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY, ITALY — Captain C. S. Ushiro, graduate of Stanford University in the class of 1937, recently was awarded the Bronze Star for heroic achievement in France before his unit returned to participate in the final Fifth Army campaign in Italy.

Former 2nd Battalion surgeon and now assistant regimental surgeon with the 442nd Japanese American Combat Team, Ushiro was decorated by Colonel V. R. Miller, regimental commander, at a ceremony in Lecco, Italy.

Learning that several men in a danger area were in need of immediate medical attention, Ushiro proceeded forward with plasma and first aid kit. Forced by shell-fire to hit the ground several times, he finally reached the casualties and administered aid. When a shell fragment wounded a man not 10 feet away, Ushiro went to his assistance.

Ushiro was commissioned from the Reserve Officers' Corps in October, 1941, and volunteered for active duty as a first lieutenant in June, 1943. He was promoted to captain April 28, 1944.

Ushiro, in addition to the Bronze Star, wears the European Theater Ribbon with four battle stars, the Distinguished Unit badge and Good Conduct Medal.

His wife, Mrs. Bessie A. Ushiro, and two daughters live at 19-4-B, War Relocation Center, Topaz, Utah.



# PACIFIC CITIZEN

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LARRY TAJIRI EDITOR

## EDITORIALS:

### An Isolationist Passes

The death this week of Senator Hiram Johnson of California removes from the United States Senate the last of the "irreconcilables" who successfully led the opposition against the entry of the United States into the League of Nations after World War I. And it was perhaps ironical that this week, as Hiram Johnson died, President Truman signed the United Nations charter and thereby insured American participation in the world collective security organization.

In his time Senator Johnson wielded a powerful influence in the Senate and in the affairs of his native California as well. It has been said that he was considered a progressive by his friends and a radical by his enemies, but by his later record he was a reactionary. He used racism for political advantage and, of all of California's political figures, he made the widest use of racist demagoguery in his flaunting of the "yellow peril" issue in his campaigns. He is credited with the passage of California's Alien Land Law, prohibiting the ownership of land by aliens of Asiatic ancestry, a measure directed against the Japanese farmer in California. His was an important role in the campaign for the passage of the 1924 Asiatic Exclusion Act.

The leading advocate for the use of the "Japanese menace" as an issue in California politics, Senator Johnson mellowed in later years and played no part in the activities of West Coast race-baiters since Pearl Harbor. However, he is considered to have had an important role in the Congressional activity which preceded the decision to evacuate all persons of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast area in 1942.

Hiram Johnson never deviated from his position as a bulwark of American isolationism and he proved in 1943, during the debate over the repeal of the Chinese exclusion law, that he had not abandoned his anti-Orientalism.

His passing removes a colorful, if obstinate, figure from American politics. If Hiram Johnson was a racist demagogue, he was also in his day an advocate of such progressive legislation as that which has given the people the initiative, the referendum and the recall, the strengthening of the direct primary, woman suffrage, workmen's compensation, child labor laws and free public school textbooks, although in later years he was a consistent opponent of the social program of the Roosevelt administration. Yet history probably will remember him best as one of the leaders in the opposition to America's participation in the World Court and the League of Nations, and as a personal symbol of American isolationism his death closes the book on an era in American politics.

### Veterans Organizations

The suggestion of Commander Dean Helbig of the Spokane VFW post No. 51 that American veterans of Japanese ancestry form "a post of their own," instead of applying for membership in existing VFW units, is reminiscent of the traditional white supremacist's answer to the race question. However, our national experience with racial minorities already has proven that segregation, besides being in direct contradiction to American democratic ideals, is not the answer. Segregation has sharpened and intensified, rather than alleviated, racial tensions.

It is becoming increasingly apparent that

American war veterans of Japanese descent must re-examine the whole field of their relationships to the various national veterans organizations. All American veterans of this war one day will determine whether they will join established groups, like the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, or enlist in World War II groups like the American Veterans Committee and the AmVets, or form new national organizations. For the Japanese American, however, the situation already is complicated because of the discriminatory attitudes shown by individual units of the Legion and the VFW in their treatment of Japanese Americans who have applied for membership.

It should be pointed out, of course, that discriminatory attitudes against Japanese American veterans have been shown by organized veterans of World War I, while veterans of the present war have been both willing and forthright in their support of their battlefield comrades of Japanese ancestry. The most publicized incident which has served to illustrate the differences in attitudes of veterans of the two great wars was the disciplining of the World War II post of the American Legion in Hollywood by the regional leadership of the California Legion department for the World War II post's action in admitting a Japanese American to membership and in denouncing the Hood River post of the Legion for its action in erasing the names of Nisei soldiers from a war service roll.

Discriminatory actions of this nature by the Legion and other veterans groups have inspired wholesale denunciations of these acts from Americans in service in every part of the world. One of the most significant was the protest from the Pacific war-front against the refusal of the Spokane VFW post to admit a Japanese American veteran. This protest, and others like it from the Pacific front, nullifies the argument of the Spokane post that their rejection of a Nisei member is predicated on the belief that the admittance of a Japanese American to membership would result in friction between the Nisei and veterans of the Pacific war. Thousands of Nisei are now in action in the Pacific war and there is no report of friction between them and their fellow American fighting men, and it appears somewhat presumptuous for stay-at-homes to speak in prejudiced language on behalf of men who are doing the fighting and the dying overseas.

### Resettlement Problems

A report from California this week indicates that more than 5,000 evacuees are now reestablished in their former home areas in the State. The number is roughly five per cent of the pre-evacuation population of Japanese ancestry and indicates that the major task of individual resettlement on the West Coast still lies ahead for the WRA and other agencies involved in the relocation program.

Slow but steady progress is reported in the housing situation, one of the major factors which must be considered. Hostels are being established and the WRA is reported to be making arrangements for temporary housing facilities on a wide-scale basis. In considering the necessity for such intermediate housing, it should be recalled that the evacuation was not accomplished without an intermediate stop in the assembly centers operated by the now-liquidated War-time Civil Control Administration.

The recent institution of Federal prosecution of the Watson brothers in connection with terroristic raids on the Doi ranch may be considered proof of an increased determination on the part of Federal government authorities to protect the lives and properties of the returning evacuees. Federal action against the Watsons gives notice that the government is stiffening in its determination to assure the fair treatment of the returnees, and comes as a rebuke to local justice in California which has made a mockery of two prosecutions of confessed terrorists.

Federal action to assure the safety of those returning to the coast also indicates that one of the major jobs facing the WRA is that of convincing those evacuees still remaining in the war relocation camps that they will not be molested upon their return. It is assumed that the large majority of those still in the camps will return to the West Coast, but the number of those returning must be accelerated if the relocation agency's program is to be completed before the stated deadline.

# Nisei USA

by LARRY TAJIRI

## Notes For a Column

### War Work

Some time ago a Japanese American, anxious to do a useful job in the production effort, answered large ads, calling for workers, in the newspapers of a western city. He applied for work—and was turned down. None of the applicants were told of the nature of the work, except that it directly concerned the war effort. The Nisei tried and tried again to get the job as advertisements continued to appear stating the need for thousands of workers. But each time he was politely turned down. Finally, however, his perseverance paid off and he was accepted, after being thoroughly screened by intelligence officials. He went to work in a war town which had mushroomed out on the western desert.

This week this Nisei, along with his thousands of fellow workers, and the people of the world, learned that he had been engaged in the production of the atomic bomb.

### Contradictions

Because Hollywood does not have any particular reputation for gullibility, we are somewhat surprised at the ease with which Hollywood writers and producers have swallowed the sabotage and hatred line of the West Coast race-baiters. Almost without exception the Japanese American characters who appear in Hollywood movies, like "Little Tokyo, USA" and "Betrayal from the East," are villainous saboteurs (not forgetting, of course, that each picture contained one Nisei who was pro-American and an informer and who was tortured and killed by the fifth columnists.) Hollywood pictures have a way of engendering hatred against the people of Japanese ancestry in the United States (like the snide remarks in "The Purple Heart" of the chief Japanese villain, a Nipponese Army general, who remarks that he used to be a fisherman at Santa Barbara, Calif.), but Hollywood films like "Behind the Rising Sun" and "Blood on the Sun," which are about the Japanese enemy, contain an unusually high quotient of "good" Japanese. The Tokyo stenographer played by Margo in "Behind the Rising Sun," a girl who loved American movies and ice cream sodas and who wanted to be like Ginger Rogers, and the Japanese prince in "Blood on the Rising Sun," who risks and finally gives his life to give the infamous Tanaka memorial to the world and thereby exposes the Japanese militarists, were certainly sympathetic characters.

Hollywood, of course, has a deadly fear of domestic controversies. We can think of only a handful of films which has attempted to treat domestic problems and situations realistically, which has presented the characters of union leaders and the work of a trade union without distortion, or which has presented the nation's racial problems, particularly that of the Negro in the South. Hollywood's contradictions, picturing saboteurs of Japanese ancestry in the United States and "good" Japanese in Japan, no doubt stems from its fear of arousing the ire of the West Coast racists whose particular interests lie in the persecution of Americans of Japanese ancestry. It should be remembered that Hearst still has a strong influence in Hollywood.

Speaking of Hearst, a Washington correspondent for the New York daily, PM, remarked recently that the Hearst press has been calling for a "soft" peace for Japan and for hard treatment of Americans of Japanese ancestry.

### Senate Bigot

We believe most Japanese Americans would be thoroughly ashamed and embarrassed if they knew that Senator Eastland of Mississippi, who delivered one of the vilest speeches given on the Senate floor recently in his attempt to smash the FEPC, devoted a portion of that speech, consisting mainly of an attack upon the courage and loyalty of Negro American soldiers, to praise the fighting record of Americans of Japanese ancestry. Senator Eastland attempted to "prove," in praising the Nisei, that he was

not prejudiced against all Caucasian Americans, but he succeeded in demonstrating that he was as warped in his definition of Americanism and democracy as his two Mississippi colleagues, Senator Bilbo and Rep. John Rankin. Nisei Americans have learned, if Senator Eastland has not, that bigotry is indivisible.

### 49th Star

The wartime service record of Americans of Japanese ancestry has given a lift to proponents of statehood in Hawaii. Heretofore whenever statehood was talked of in Hawaii, the fact that there are more persons of Japanese ancestry in Hawaii than any other racial group was an element which statehood backers believed to be a severe drag on their chances. It has taken a war to prove beyond doubt that Hawaii's population is as loyal as that of any state in the Union. In fact, Hawaii today leads all of the 48 States in per capita sales of War Bonds and the majority of Hawaii's residents want the territory to become the 49th State.

## EDITORIAL DIGEST

### Authority Limited

#### PALO ALTO TIMES

The Palo Alto, Calif., Times, Aug. 3 pointed out that Maj. Gen. Pratt, commander of the Western Defense Command, stressed in his recent statement in which he declared that he was the sole determinant of the eligibility of evacuees of Japanese ancestry to return to the West Coast, that there is "no legal authority" for restricting the movements of any individual within the United States for any reason other than military considerations.

"When the official groups have no authority to move people about summarily for other than military considerations, how much less authority private individuals have to attempt to exile them for their own personal reasons," the Times declared.

The newspaper added: "Those who attempt to do so by either violent attacks, intimidation or other means, whether under a false mask of patriotism or in surrender to hoodlum impulses, are engaging in criminal activity which raises questions about their own fitness for citizenship rights."

### Welcome Returning Nisei!

#### PEOPLE'S WORLD

The People's World, progressive West Coast daily published in San Francisco, on Aug. 3 urged "organized community effort, led by trade unions, and embracing civic organizations" to make "turning evacuees of Japanese ancestry 'feel welcome and give them aid, and—of great importance—to vigorously defend them against attack, and require local authorities to afford them every protection of the law."

The People's World described the destruction of a Japanese graveyard in Stockton, now being restored by Pacific war veterans as "unadulterated Fascist vandalism incited by newspapers such as those of Hearst, and various groups seeking to steal land and property of Japanese Americans."

### The Wrong Slant

#### TOLEDO BLADE

The Toledo, Ohio, Blade declared on July 21 that Mrs. Imogene, the wife of a man of Filipino ancestry, who was sentenced to prison after threatening to burn down the home of a Japanese American soldier in Walnut Grove, California, had the "wrong slant" on her actions stemmed from her hatred of persons of Japanese ancestry because of what the Japanese enemy did to Filipinos. The Blade said that Mrs. Imogene "should be the last rather than the first" to persecute a family of Japanese ancestry, of whose members "put his loyalty to America first and fought for his country."



## Vagaries

### Petitioned . . .

Representatives of an organized nurserymen's and wholesale produce dealers group in the Los Angeles area are now circulating petitions demanding that the government exclude persons of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast . . . One of the questions brought up before the Izac Congressional Committee in its visit to Hawaii is the subject of the "unusually heavy" procurement of Caucasian physicians and surgeons from the territory for military service, leaving behind doctors of Japanese and Chinese ancestry who, according to the Star-Bulletin, "are ready to go, qualified to go, and should go."

### Berlin . . .

First Nisei soldier to enter the Berlin area is believed to have been Pfc. Frank Shimada of San Jose, Calif., who volunteered for the Army in 1943 from a war relocation center. Pfc. Shimada was injured in Italy while in action with the 442nd and later saw combat activity with other U. S. units in France and Germany . . . Japanese Canadians have a new publication, "Nisei Affairs," sponsored by the Japanese Canadian Committee for Democracy in Toronto, Ont. The JCDC recently lost many of its top leaders who volunteered for the Canadian Army when Nisei enlistments were finally permitted earlier this year.

### No Incident . . .

A report from Los Angeles indicates that there was no "incident," as that alleged in a news photo circulated by Hearst's International News Photos and Hearst's Kings Feature Service, when the special train from Rohwer arrived with 96 returning evacuees and met a trainload of Marine combat veterans from the Pacific. The King Features photo, showing an evacuee mother with two children and a group of Marines walking past them, was sent out under the caption, "To a Pacific Vet, a Jap's a Jap." . . . According to persons who were at the Los Angeles station, there was no situation to warrant such a caption . . . In fact, the Rohwer train received cheers from GIs returning from the Pacific when the soldiers, at a railroad junction en route to Los Angeles, found that the evacuees were returning home.

### Kenny . . .

WRA offices in the Empire State building were unharmed when the B-25 bomber crashed into the world's highest building on July 28 . . . Behind the criticism of Attorney General Robert Kenny's attitude on the evacuee question and other matters by the National Lawyers Guild in Washington, D. C., is the Interior Department's gripe against Kenny for the latter's strong opposition in pending litigation about tidewater oil lands in California. Fowler Harper, head of the Lawyer's Guild in Washington, is the solicitor for the Interior Department . . . A leading California progressive, who has been close to the evacuee question, considers that Kenny has done a much better job than anyone knows on matters affecting the treatment of returned evacuees in California.

Anti-evacuee organizations in Salinas, Calif., were powerful enough to prevent the appearance of Capt. George Grandstaff of the U. S. Army before civic groups in the area. Capt. Grandstaff, who has been touring California and speaking on the experiences of Japanese American soldiers in Europe, finally spoke in Salinas at a Filipino church, the only hall available.

### A Good Example

**PHILADELPHIA RECORD**  
The Philadelphia Record, the Quaker city's liberal daily, on July 22 saluted Justice Milo Dye of Walnut Grove, Calif., who sentenced a woman to 30 days in jail for threatening a Japanese American soldier and his family. "The conviction, as Secretary of the Interior Ickes points out is the first jail sentence imposed for threatening returned Japanese Americans," the Record noted. "Such action takes courage in some parts of the West Coast, as action against lynching takes courage in some parts of the South. No one has been jailed in 24 incidents of violence against Japanese Americans returned to California from relocation centers."

## I Give You Americans!

If Soldiers Ever Worked to Prove Themselves to a Doubting World, They were the Nisei GIs in Italy in 1943

By CAPTAIN GEORGE H. GRANDSTAFF

The splendid record of the Americans of Japanese descent in combat is a chapter still in the making in the history of World War II. The brief insight into that record which I give you deals only with the Nisei in the European theater of war.

In order to take in a bit of background, I'll take you back about four years when some 1400 men, all members of the 298th and 299th Hawaiian National Guard Regiments and all Americans of Japanese descent, were suddenly withdrawn from their units, bundled into an oversize battalion and shipped to Camp McCoy, Wisconsin. Pearl Harbor had occurred and racial turmoil followed in its wake. The obvious reason for this sudden withdrawal from the Islands, at least to these Nisei, was fear of Japanese treachery—a disconcerting beginning for a Battalion that was soon to build one of the finest combat records in World War II. Nevertheless, a seven-company Battalion was formed and went to work earnestly to prepare for combat. After six months at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, the Battalion was moved to Camp Shelby, Mississippi, and it was there that I joined them in February of 1943.

Through diligent work and sincerity of purpose, the outfit was fast approaching a high efficiency, but the minds of the men were filled with questions. Will they let us fight? What do we have to do to prove we are loyal? Lt. Col. Farrant L. Turner, the Battalion Commander, and Mr. Joe Farrington, the delegate from Hawaii, were relentless in their fight to let the outfit prove itself in combat. Ultimately their efforts were rewarded, and in August of 1943, we embarked for an unknown overseas destination.

We landed in North Africa at Oran and morale hit a new low when persistent rumor told of a job guarding a railroad in Africa. Were those long hours of bayonet drill, those sweaty, stinky forced marches, those chigger-filled nights in Louisiana, endured to make us railroad guards?

For ten days we grumbled. Then came startling orders. We were assigned, and to the oldest Division in the European Theater—the Thirty Fourth! Hurried preparations were made, and in the three weeks that followed, we were equipped, briefed, and on our way to Salerno Beach. We were to serve as the Second Battalion of the One Hundred and Thirty-third Infantry Regiment. Try to imagine, if you can, how we felt. Newcomers to combat, our first shot yet to be fired, but part of a veteran division of the African campaign.

Pride filled the hearts of the handful of white officers in the 100th. Green troops, Japanese American boys thrown into a situation so critical that failure might change the entire course of events in the European campaign. What of the skeptics now? Had the courage of these boys been less strong, their belief in America less great, it could have been a different story.

Remember, these were the boys for whom few were ready or willing to speak, yet, these were the boys who led that push all the way to Benevento, and if soldiers ever worked to prove themselves to a Division and to a doubting world, it was the 100th Battalion during our initial drive into Italy. After three weeks of fighting, morale soared upward, these boys knew they had not trained in vain. They were good soldiers. By this time General Charles W. Ryder knew the 100th for its true worth and proudly presented us with the Red Bull patch of the 34th Division. That was a proud day for us, and we will always value the "old Bull" as one of our proudest possessions.

Winter was fast approaching as we made the initial crossing of the Volturno. Rain was rapidly turning Italy's dirt roads into muck, and small streams were setting new high water marks on their banks. In true California fashion, the natives described the weather as "unusual." That was no name for it! Mud clung to your feet, clean rifles were impossible; dry blankets unheard of. Supply trucks sunk unhappily on their bellies with a resolve never to move again unless compelled to do so by force other than their own. Here the heartbreak of closely related soldiers began to be increasingly evident. To lose a comrade is bad—to lose a brother is plain hell, particularly when one has still another brother with the outfit. Yes, we were getting used to death, we knew its odor, we knew the twisted, crumpled look of a man in whom no life remained. This is the stage of mental adjustment most combat units fear. A few men decide that life is too sweet to risk, A.W.O.L.s increase, and "straggler lines" lengthen. The 100th Battalion, during its entire combat history never had, nor had need of, a "straggler line" and with them A.W.O.L. was a military term used to describe a hospital patient who returned to the outfit before being declared physically fit for duty!

The Battalion made four crossings of the winding Volturno River, and it seemed as if each succeeding one exceeded the next in ferocity of German defense, the number of mines encountered, and mortar and artillery fire received. Winter pounced down on Italy, and the suffering of the Hawaiian-bred men was terrible. Sleet and snow alternated with rain. During that winter the Battalion almost to a man, suffered with trench feet in varying degrees. Many patients had toes amputated because they "stuck it out" too long before asking for medical aid. I will never forget that winter nor those Japanese American boys who always smiled and never complained.

Casualties were heavy at Castle Hill and Alife, and weather continued to hamper movement. Here for the first time in Italy, it was necessary to resort to the use of mules in the mountains. This substantially reduced the quantity of food, ammunition, and water, which could be transported to the Battalion, and increased the ever-present problem of evacuation of the wounded. During the long drive from Prosanzano across the mountains to San Michele, contact with the rear elements became increasingly bad. At its worst, 8 relay stations were established from which litter teams worked to the point of exhaustion, scratching their way down steep mountain slopes in a race with death. Many wounded men spent twenty-two hours being bumped along on a litter before they could be brought to a one way jeep trail—another hour on a litter rack across a jeep over what only an optimist would call a road before he could be placed aboard an ambulance. Those lads were Americans who bled to death on that goat trail. Their smallness of stature or the color of their skin did not relieve their suffering in the slightest degree. I learned another lesson in life on the battlefields of Italy when I could find no difference in the color of their blood and that of my own. I had pride in my outfit before but those mountains proved to me that we had men who were real men. The 100th Battalion had a spirit which moved it forward—a spirit which few units have ever equaled.

We were tired when we reached San Michele which lies across the Rapido River and its small valley Cassino. We longed to rest but further work must be done. Cassino blocked the entire advance. Cassino had to fall. To tell you of that battle seems almost futile. I have seen more pictures and read more articles concerning that action than any one engagement of the European War. For 40 days the 34th Division which still included the 100th Battalion pounded the Monastery, the Castle, Hangman's Hill and the town of Cassino. Casualties steamed down the mountains under cover of darkness. During those days I asked for volunteers for hazardous tasks, selected those to go and then saw men cry because they were refused permission to go with us. Yes, those were Japanese Americans who cried—not because they had drawn hazardous duty, but because they

To the Editor

## THE LETTERBOX

### Masao: Pro

Editor,

The Pacific Citizen:

This is in reply to the letter published in the July 28 issue from "an interested reader" regarding Jobo Nakamura's study of the relocated evacuee, "Masao." The "interested reader" claims "Masao" is a maladjusted, pessimistic study of the Nisei in relocation. I don't know. To me, Mr. Nakamura's study is clever.

The study deals with the delicate psychology of a member of the most-persecuted minority in the country who has known a lifetime of inert, oppressed, Lil' Tokyo existence, and who is suddenly thrown upon the wide, open horizon of relocation, unbound by ghetto-sphere, and does not know how to take himself. I think "Masao" in Mr. Nakamura's study is in most of us at one time or another. It is a mood and not a flattering one.

Such a state of mind is bound to exist in an individual who is sharply aware of his previous existence, confronted by social and economic restrictions and who is now faced with a socio-economic freedom he has never known before. He does not know how to bridge the two totally different existences. And the frustration arises. He wonders forlornly how and where he will end up when the war is over, and whether he will be able to hold on to his job, and he wonders in what particular niche he belongs in the complex mosaic pattern of race relations. His thoughts on these matters are acutely self-centered because of the past history of "internment" behind him.

"Masao" is to be pitied and not condemned. For it is asking too much of human nature to be uprooted overnight, transplanted and expected to resume living as though nothing had happened. Such a transition does take some readjustment—a lot of it for many of us. Mr. Nakamura's "Masao" is a sympathetic study of an individual who has never "belonged," who has never really known the meaning of complete economic and emotional security; and whose sense of self-preservation, arising from a past knowledge of persecution, had always forced him to look two steps ahead.

"Masao's" problem is not merely a state of mind which can be ironed out overnight by being al-

truistic, or by going to church or by attending a dance. It is the state of mind which many of the evacuees go through in a strange city in the transition period of relocation.

A Nisei Girl,  
Chicago, Ill.

### Masao: Con

Editor,

Pacific Citizen:

Mr. Jobo Nakamura's articles had become increasingly distasteful to me, and I should like to congratulate "An Interested Reader," Columbus, Ohio, for expressing his viewpoint.

Although Mr. Nakamura's sketches are colorful and interesting from a literary point of view, they are not always likely to be interpreted solely on the basis of artistic merit. During these days of increasing interest in the Nisei, his articles carry a certain social responsibility, not only in respect to presenting the Nisei to society, but also in regard to the personal effect they may have upon individual Nisei. His negative emphasis may tend to encourage the self pity and unhealthy mental attitudes of susceptible readers who may find themselves temporarily in similar difficult positions. They are also liable to give an uninformed general public a consistently distorted view of the Nisei.

Having had personal contact with several Nisei in Jobo's circle, whose unhealthy influence is reflected in his articles, I have discovered that it is virtually impossible to convince them that there is a vast number of Nisei who are now and always have been very happily adjusted, in spite of evacuation and other personal difficulties. The latter Nisei surely do not care to be represented exclusively in the fashion that Mr. Nakamura chooses to employ.

Since Mr. Nakamura is very skillful in painting with words, it would be gratifying if he should turn his talents toward presenting the brighter side of Nisei life as well as the dismal. An occasional article based upon a positive perspective would provide a refreshing and healthful change from a steady diet of negative and neurotic emphasis. Or doesn't such material hold somber palette colors to suit his present palette?

Sincerely,

A Reader  
New York City, N. Y.

had not. One night in particular will always remain in my mind. Some forty enlisted men and I had picked a spot at which to meet at 2000. I was delayed by a persistent mortar barrage and arrived about three quarters of an hour late. Instead of forty men there was only one. Upon questioning him, I found that the balance were up in that barrage hunting for me because they knew that I was alone. There are many fancy definitions of "loyalty" but when those men straggled in at dawn after an all night search for me I needed no dictionary for my interpretation of the word.

Cassino was an everlasting nightmare. Suffice it to say that it was the only objective the 100th Battalion or the 34th Division ever failed to take. We were the last American unit to come when the British relieved us there and we were very few in numbers. Our Battalion looked like a company.

We pulled back into a rest area, or I should say a collapse area, and it was there that we received our first group of replacements. Again brothers met brothers and looks of dismay crossed the faces of these veterans when they saw the eager faces of those kids who had volunteered to join us; I thank the powers that be that it was not my lot to train my own brother—to sit by a camp fire and to attempt to tell him all things which actual experience alone can really teach. They faced this problem as they faced everything in Europe—with a grim determination to do a superior job. We were soon to know the value of that training for within a month we were once again aboard ship and heading for the Anzio Beachhead—a nice spot in which to initiate men to combat. During that voyage we managed to do a bit of reading and it was there that our men through the "Stars and Stripes" and local newspapers from home learned of many happenings on the Pacific Coast. They didn't say much about their families and friends in Relocation Centers nor did they rejoice over the fact that the only proven sabotage was committed by white men. The thing that really made my blood boil was to read of the mistreatment of our returning veterans. Had I been a Japanese American, I believe that I would have become very embittered and doubts would have assailed my mind. But the boys never relaxed and as the incidents increased so also did their determination to go on proving themselves Americans in spite of the un-American acts committed against them.

It was on the Beachhead that Capt. Kim and Pvt. Akahoshi startled all American units with their daylight capture of two German prisoners from behind enemy lines. The pair crawled on their bellies into an area occupied by a German platoon then belly-crawled—not marched—their prisoners right out from under the nose of the whole Jerry platoon at the point of their tommyguns. The information gained from them was invaluable. Both men were awarded D.S.C.s for this audacious act.

Anzio was not a healthy resort then. Not a foot of American-held ground was safe from enemy artillery. Ships unloaded while the "Anzio Express" tried desperately to hit them. C.P.s and dugouts were heavily sand-bagged. Kitchen areas were as "hot" as the front lines. There were no spots where field hospitals could be placed where nurses would not be killed in their wards or operating rooms. Plans were laid and we started our push to break out to join with the forces driving toward us from Cassino.

(To be concluded)

(Captain George H. Grandstaff of Azusa, Calif., has served with the 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Combat Team in all of the campaigns of these Nisei units in Italy and France.)



# An Evacuee Family Returns: HOME TO CALIFORNIA

By MARY OYAMA  
(PART II)

Los Angeles, Calif.

By a fortunate coincidence, we were able to return to our home in Los Angeles when our friends were able to move out of it. The tenants, our Negro writer friend, Mr. Chester Himes and his wife, Jean, had been renting our newly-built home for the past three years—completely furnished. Mr. Himes won a Rosenwald fellowship and went to New York City to write his book and to be near his publishers. We were able to move into our home without the slightest hitch.

When we left Heart Mountain, Wyo., early in 1943 we had bought an old six-room frame house completely furnished in Denver and lived there for a year and a half. Then in July 1944 we sold the whole business, furniture and all, to an evacuee from Poston who had househunted desperately for weeks and had finally reluctantly decided to move his family of five into a dingy store-front place in the downtown business district. In Chicago we almost bought a house again but instead we just bought

a complete set of furniture for a party who was leaving for California. And of course when left our six-room flat in the dreary semi-slums of Chicago, we had to sell the furniture.

We also sold "Grapes-of-Wrath," a battered old '32 Chevie "jalopy" which we had gotten in Denver. (Believe it or not, friend husband actually managed it to drive from Colorado to Illinois without a mishap.) It was sold in "Chi" for the munificent sum of \$75. So to think of it now, we certainly grubbed and budgeted and saved both in Denver and Chicago, to plan for our eventual return. Our rickety little house in the Rockies was a truly humble contrast to the modern one we'd left in L. A., and the crowded sardine can existence in the drab flats of "Dirty Shirt Town" (as Lou Ruppel calls it) now seems like something out of a bad dream.

All the no-holiday, no days-off stints, the many hours of overtime, the restricted mode of living, etc., were more than amply compensated for after our return. So, to all evacuee Nisei still in exile we would admonish that it would be wise to observe the Way of the Ant rather than to follow the prancing of the Cricket. The more you economize, the sooner you can return home, and the sooner you return the better, as NOW is the best time to go home. ("Before the war ends, while the public feeling is still good, and before postwar conditions complicate the economic and employment setup"—as Carey McWilliams and other leaders have advised us.)

Although after considerable red tape, we were able to get coach fare for the return trip from the WRA. The travelling conditions at the time we left in April of this year were stringent but, it was not as restricted and difficult as it is at the time of this writing, August 1944. In our own particular case we were most fortunate because the Head of our Family is a railroad employee and therefore able to get a few more privileges than other passengers. Perhaps by now, even these employee privileges have been curtailed.

All the necessary business details concerning our return were all worked out before hand with our tenants, our particular Caucasian American friends (the ones who met us at the station) who took care of all our requests prior to our return, and even the Hostel people to whom we had written just in case of an emergency—should our friends have been unable to fulfill our requests. Even though we arrived home 24 hours earlier than expected, we were still able to step in after 10:30 p.m. and "so to bed" just as if we'd only been away a few hours rather than three full years almost to the month. Lights, water, gas, and such utilities had all been in readiness, even to the telephone.

In the morning after our arrival, all we had to do was to unpack our baggage, and later the trunks and freight (the latter shipped out long before we left Chicago, making full allowance for shipment and delivery delays.) Of course we acknowledge and give full credit to our Better Half who planned every detail so thoroughly. We admit that we probably could not have done it so well. Home-coming readjustment was made so smoothly that it all seemed too good to be true. We looked for some "catch," but knock-on-wood, nothing has come up so far. (TO BE CONTINUED)

## EVACUEE FIREMEN DEMONSTRATE ART OF FIRE FIGHTING

TULELAKE, Calif. — Demonstrations of hose laying and pressure pumping by the Tule Lake Segregation Center Fire Department were witnessed on Aug. 1 by Tulelake's local volunteer fire department, the War Relocation Authority reported.

The exhibition was put on at the request of the town volunteers after the Tule Lake WRA camp's fire department, composed of evacuees of Japanese ancestry, extinguished a dangerous blaze in the town's business district some months ago.

## Topaz Girl to Wed Fort Lupton Dentist

TOPAZ, Utah—Mr. and Mrs. Hajime Doi of Topaz this week announced the engagement of their second daughter, Yuriko Lily, to Dr. Ernest Setsuo Torigoe, oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Bunkichi Torigoe of Brighton, Colo.

Miss Doi is a recent graduate of the Colorado State College of Education and is at present employed in the WRA office in Denver, Colo.

## Nisei Girl Wins Hobby Show Award

ROCKFORD, Ill. — Nancy Ishizaki, 11, daughter of Yazo Ishizaki, Rockford watchmaker, was recently awarded first place in a hobby show at the Welsh School. Nancy has also been editor of her local school paper.

The Ishizakis came to Rockford from the Tule Lake relocation center. They are former residents of Sacramento, Calif.

## Nisei Artillerymen Win Track Meet Held in South Germany

WITH THE 522ND FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION IN GERMANY—The 522nd Field Artillery Battalion, composed of Americans of Japanese ancestry, walked away with the 13 F. A. Brigade track meet on July 20 at Nordlingen, taking first place in six events and scoring in ten others to pile up a score of 79 points. The 999th F. A. Battalion was second with 36 points.

Pfc. Yoshio Wada tied for high point honors with Pvt. Webster of the 999th by winning the high jump, and taking second in the 100 meters and running a lap on the 800-meter relay team.

Pfc. Clarence Matsumura won the 3,000 meters in 11 minutes 52.6 seconds, with Pvt. John Furukawa, also of the 522nd, finishing third.

Pfc. Tsuneshi Murao, Pfc. Hideo Noda, and Pfc. George Kuwamoto placed first, second and fourth in the 200-meters. Murao's winning time was 24.9s.

The 522nd's relay team, composed of T/5 George Goto, Pfc. Hideo Noda, Pfc. Maruo and Pfc. Wada, rated the "team to beat" in the

meet, ran true to form, winning in 1:40.1s.

Pfc. Ikinaga and Pfc. Jimmy Unamoto placed second and third in the broad jump, with Unamoto coming back to win the hop, step and jump with a leap of 40 feet 4 inches.

The shot put and discus throw were the only events in which the 522nd failed to score.

All first and second place winners were picked to represent the Brigade in the XX Corps meet at Munich. Eighteen members of the 13th Brigade team are Americans of Japanese ancestry from the 522nd.

## Cleveland Evacuees Aid Resettlers Fund

CLEVELAND, O.—A check for \$257.50 was presented on July 29 to the Cleveland Resettlement Committee by the Cuyahoga Nisei organization.

The fund will be used to help defray the expenses of the Resettlement Committee office at 1001 Huron Rd., Cleveland.

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## Nisei Will Teach In School in Turkey

MILWAUKEE, Wis. — Yoshio Fukuyama, formerly of Los Angeles, is leaving shortly from Boston for Talas, Kayseri, Turkey, to teach for three years in a boys' school there, it was learned this week by Milwaukee friends. The school, which is sponsored by the American Board of Commissioners of foreign Missions, is located in the suburbs of Kayseri, a large industrial and railroad town, southeast of Ankara.

A graduate of Doane College in Crete, Nebraska, and the Chicago Theological Seminary, Fukuyama will teach English, social sciences and related subjects as religious teaching is forbidden by the Turkish law.

Fukuyama's twin brother, Hiro, is serving with the U. S. Army in China. His parents are residents of the Granada War Relocation Project.



## Student Counselors Will Aid Evacuee Graduates to Relocate

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—Under the sponsorship of the National Intercollegiate Christian Council of the Student YM-YWCA, four Japanese American college students were recently selected and sent as counselors to assist in the higher education plans of high school graduates in the eight war relocation centers.

The main responsibility for the group will be to encourage and assist recent graduates of center high schools to take plans toward continuing their education in colleges, universities, trade and nursing schools.

A spokesman for the Council declared: "Wherever possible, we have tried to send both a college boy and girl to each center for a

period of from six weeks to two and a half months or three months.

In view of the announced closing of the centers the student returnees this summer also are aiding families with their resettlement plans by giving them encouragement, suggestions and information on housing conditions, job opportunities and community acceptance on the outside. They were prepared for this phase of their work by undergoing a five-day training program which took most of them through New York, Philadelphia, Washington, D. C. and Chicago where they met and held conferences with staff members of the area, as well as district officers of the WRA, hostel directors and recently relocated and established resettlers.

The Council announced that the following students have been sent to the relocation centers:

Granada: June Suzuki, Colorado State College.

Gila River: Haruo Ishimaru, Yankton College, S. D.; Esther Takei, Pasadena J. C., Calif.; Kiyoko Araki, Yankton College, S. D.

Heart Mountain: Sachie Fukui, Western Reserve, Ohio; Mas Toyotome, Union Theological Seminary, N. Y.

Minidoka: Alice Togo, Vassar College, N. Y.; and Eugene Ueki, Oberlin College, Ohio.

Central Utah: Frances Katase, Heidelberg College, Ohio; and Kay Nakagiri, University of Wisconsin.

Colorado River: Cherry Obayashi, Wells College, N. Y.; and Ken Yamamoto, George Washington U., Washington, D. C.

Tule Lake: Haruo Ishimaru, Yankton College, S. D.

### Salt Lake Man Killed Accidentally By Cyanide Gas

Torakichi Yoshikawa, 61, was pronounced dead of cyanide poisoning on Aug. 3 after he had fallen asleep in his room at the Colonial Hotel, 144 West First South St., while fumigators were at work in the building.

He was found unconscious by his wife and pronounced dead by physicians 20 minutes later.

## Vital Statistics

### BIRTHS

To Dr. and Mrs. Tom Abe a girl, Beverly Ann, on July 16 in Des Moines, Ia.

To Mr. and Mrs. Ken Fushimi, a boy in Denver, Colo.

To Mr. and Mrs. Eiichi Yaita, 14-7-C, Heart Mountain, a boy on July 27.

To Mr. and Mrs. Seiji Ikeda, 30-1-F, Heart Mountain, a boy on Aug. 2.

To Mr. and Mrs. George Uchida, 4-4-D, Topaz, a girl on July 30.

To Mr. and Mrs. Masao Ashimoto, 226-1-A, Poston, a boy on July 24.

To Mr. and Mrs. Ippi Kajihara, 28-3-C, Poston, a girl on July 25.

To Mr. and Mrs. Keiji Kuwano, 219-14-H, Poston, a boy on July 18.

To Mr. and Mrs. Tokichi Matsumura a girl on July 17 at Newell, Calif.

To Mr. and Mrs. Shozo Ishikawa a girl on July 18 at Newell.

To Mr. and Mrs. Takeshi Nakatsu a boy on July 18 at Newell.

To Mr. and Mrs. Shodo Hirai a boy on July 18 at Newell.

To Mr. and Mrs. Iwao Matsumoto a boy on July 19 at Newell.

To Mr. and Mrs. Shioichi Hada a girl on July 19 at Newell.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hiroshi Ikemoto a boy on July 20 at Newell.

To Mr. and Mrs. Taiji Fujimoto a girl on July 20 at Newell.

To Mr. and Mrs. Otsuchi Yamada a boy on July 20 at Newell.

To Mr. and Mrs. Bob Sawada a boy on July 20 at Newell.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kuniyuki Demise a boy on July 21 at Newell.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kiuchi Ishizuka a girl on July 23 at Newell.

To Mr. and Mrs. George Usui a boy on July 24 at Newell.

To Mr. and Mrs. Satoshi Nakamura a boy on July 24 at Newell.

To Mr. and Mrs. Toshio Nagata a boy on July 25 at Newell.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kazuo Okumura a boy on July 25 at Newell.

To Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Isleri a boy on July 26 at Newell.

To Mr. and Mrs. Yoshio Kazumura a girl on July 28 at Newell.

To Mr. and Mrs. Tatsuji Watairi a girl on July 29 at Newell.

To Pvt. and Mrs. T. Mitsui a boy on July 27 in Salt Lake City.

To Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Nishimura a girl on July 28 in Salt Lake City.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hiroshi Koga a girl on July 30 in Salt Lake City.

### DEATHS

Matahiko Noguchi, 51, 22-9-A, Poston, in Phoenix, Ariz., on August 2.

Meiko Kurakasu, 22, of 34-11-A, Gila River, on July 27.

Mrs. Kimi Kamiya in Denver, Colo.

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Kanzo Araki, 74, of 12E-4A, Granada, on July 24.

Kichitaro Kawase, 66, 12F-1B, Granada, on July 30.

Seiichiro Nagamori, 53, in Los Angeles on Aug. 2.

Hiroshi Tanizaki 17, in Chicago on July 20.

Torakichi Yoshikawa, 61, in Salt Lake City on Aug. 3.

Yoshinori Matsubayashi, infant, 7902-B, Newell, on July 19.

Ishimatsu Onishi, 78, 2419-D, Newell, on July 22.

Sadahei Hirose, 65, 4614-D, Newell, on July 22.

### MARRIAGES

Suyeko Tanaka to Harry Taniguchi on July 25 at Rivers, Ariz.

Teruko Margart Inazuka to Clement Keiji Nakatani on July 30 at Rivers, Ariz.

Tomio Otsu to Pvt. Tom Utsuki in Little Rock, Ark.

Mutsuko Ikari to Peter Okada in Chicago, Ill.

Tomio Nagata to James Eno at Poston, Ariz., on July 21.

Haruko Fujikawa to Shozo Ohsuga in New York City.

Michiko Katsumata to Hisao Hoshino at Newell, Calif., on July 28.

Yuriko Yoshimoto to Tomonori Ishida at Newell, Calif., on July 21.

Kiyoko Kawai to Masaru Miyamoto at Newell, Calif., on July 28.

Midori Ikejiri to Tokushige Narahara at Newell, Calif., on July 28.

Namiye Terasaki to Mikio Tanabe at Newell, Calif., on July 29.

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## California Files Escheat Suit On Theatre

STOCKTON, Calif.—In one of the first actions involving business property, the State of California and San Joaquin County filed escheat proceedings against Japanese alien owners of Stockton Theatres, Inc., charging violation of the State's Anti-Alien Land Law.

The suit contended that revenue from the Star Theatre property should escheat to the State under the provisions of the State's restrictions against ownership of property by aliens of Japanese ancestry.

## Nisei Soldier Back From India Theater

FORT SNELLING, Minn.—What with a personal valet for five rupees or \$1.75 American a month, GIs in New Delhi, India's capital, seem to be getting along fine, T/3 Joe Ichikawa of Seattle, Wash., told the Fort Snelling Bulletin last week.

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## Nisei Girl Leads Parade as Drum Major in New York Town

NEW YORK — Last Memorial Day was a proud day for Betty Ikeda, formerly of Seattle and Minidoka, and now of Bedford Hills, New York. On that day Betty led the Bedford Hills High School band, of which she is the drum majorette, in the traditional Memorial Day parade of war veterans, Boy and Girls Scouts, and other organizations to the village flag pole and monument.

Although the parade took place some weeks ago, it is still significant news. Betty's participation in the parade was recently the subject of an inspiring editorial, entitled "Where Democracy Lives," in a newspaper published near her home—the Katonah, New York, Record.

The editorial follows:

"In the Memorial Day exercises on Bedford Green, a week ago, there were many significant and inspiring features. Not the least noteworthy of these was the fact that when the column, made up of veterans of the first World War, Boy and Girl Scouts, and other organizations, marched from the village fire house to the flag pole and monument, they were led by a high school band at the head of which was—a Japanese American girl.

"We have called her a Japanese American. She is not that. She is an American citizen by birth, who happens to have Japanese ancestors. She and one of her brothers attend the Bedford Hills High School; she as a Sophomore, he as a student in the Eighth Grade. Another brother wears the uniform of the United States Army. When the brother and sister entered the school, last fall, they were accepted, by students and faculty alike, as the Americans they are. They have since demonstrated their right to be so treated. The boy has been elected as one of the officers of his class. The girl—led her fellow Americans in the Memorial Day march on Bedford Green last week!

"Bedford Green has seen much history; has had its part in many events exemplifying the meaning of democracy. We doubt whether any of them has more strikingly illustrated the true significance of the high privilege of American citizenship than the sight of this little American girl, whose parents are of a race with which we are now at war, marching at the head of a procession in ceremonies paying tribute to those who have died in order that democracy may live.

"Only in such a country as the United States could such a thing as this happen. Only where democracy lives, in the hearts of men as well as in the phrases with which they pay tribute to their war heroes, could there be so forceful an illustration of what lies at the very foundation of free and democratic government."

The boy referred to in the editorial is Betty's 13-year-old brother Henry, who was president of his class at Bedford Hills High School last term. They live with their parents in a six-room house on Hook Road, Route 22, Bedford Hills, New York, where Mr. and Mrs. Kiyoshi Ikeda are employed as domestics on an estate. Bedford Hills, a village of some 1600 persons, is about 40 miles from New York City.

Mr. and Mrs. Ikeda have five children, two in the Army.

## Nisei Doctor Joins Milwaukee Hospital

MILWAUKEE, Wis. — Dr. George Kumasaka, formerly of Seattle, recently joined the staff of the Milwaukee County General Hospital. Doctor Kumasaka is a graduate of the University of Washington, where his honorary memberships included Pi Mu Chi and Phi Beta Kappa, and the Northwestern University Medical School. His parents are residents of Denver.

## Buddhist Church Converted to Evacuee Hostel

TOPAZ, Utah — Bishop Matsuoka of the Buddhist church left Topaz on Aug. 8 to transfer headquarters of the Buddhist Churches of America from the Central Utah center back to San Francisco and WRA officials hope to have the San Francisco Buddhist Church open as a hostel when he arrives there, the Topaz Times reported on Aug. 3.

Plans for the hostel were made by Project Director Luther Hoffman of Topaz who returned to the center last week from San Francisco. While on the West Coast Hoffman helped complete arrangements to move more than 2,000 pieces of property of 230 evacuee families from the Buddhist Church to a WRA warehouse and to convert the church into a hostel with accommodations for 15 to 20 families and 100 single individuals.

A sponsoring committee, representing the church and the Friends Service committee, was formed recently under the leadership of Fred Ross, district relocation officer, to work out details of furnishing the hostel with WRA equipment and setting up a schedule of rates.

A coordinating committee will be set up to handle all hostel accommodations in San Francisco, Mr. Hoffman declared. He also indicated that plans are under way to set up hostels in the Buddhist Churches in Oakland and Berkeley.

## Visits Milwaukee

MILWAUKEE, Wis.—First Lt. James N. Yamasaki, 1943 graduate of the Marquette University Medical School who was reported missing in Europe during the winter, was a recent visitor in Milwaukee.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

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## Spokane Fellowship Center Inaugurates Hostel Service

SPOKANE, Wash.—The Spokane Fellowship Center is prepared to give hostel service to evacuees of Japanese ancestry and can accommodate twelve persons a night, Helen Cleveland, house director, announced this week.

It was reported that two Japanese American families have their permanent homes at the center and the hostel director will give assistance to evacuees in finding jobs and homes.

The charge is 75 cents per day for adults and 50 cents for children under 16. It was stated that further information may be obtained from Miss Cleveland at the Fellowship center, E. 17 Seventh St., Spokane, 10.

## Fowler Council Says It Cannot Oppose Evacuee Business

FOWLER, Calif.—The Fowler City Council last week informed George Fujiwara, former Fowler garage operator, that it has no power to encourage or to forbid any activity by a law-abiding businessman.

The statement was made in connection with a communication from Fujiwara, who was evacuated from the Fowler area in 1942, asking the attitude of the Council toward his reopening his garage business.

## Special Train Scheduled for Topaz Group

TOPAZ, Utah—The first complete train to return evacuees of the Central Utah relocation center at Topaz to their homes in California will leave Delta on Aug. 15 for San Francisco with approximately 340 passengers.

The train, traveling over Union Pacific tracks, will be made up in compliance with ODT regulations and will consist of five day coaches, a standard Pullman, a diner or buffet car and a baggage car.

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