

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 740062

By MS NARA Date 4.18.03

HEADQUARTERS
ARMY GROUND FORCES
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL
ARMY WAR COLLEGE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

321/18 (Inf)(C)-GNDCG

25 September 1943.

Memorandum for the ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF WAR,
Room 4 E 886, The Pentagon, Washington, D. C.

Subject: 442d Combat Team.

Replying to your letter of 23 September, I have just talked with General Hodges, to whose army the field forces at Camp Shelby are assigned.

General Hodges has heard of no clashes between the white and Japanese soldiers, a fact which leads me to believe that the incidents reported to you are not too serious. He visited Camp Shelby about two months ago and inquired carefully into such relations at that time. The Commanding Officer, 442d Combat Team stated then that the situation was entirely satisfactory and mentioned no difficulties.

However, the cases received by you are unhealthy, and the situation in which they occurred is unsatisfactory. I am forwarding the cases to General Hodges for his information and the necessary action. In the meantime, he will contact Camp Shelby by telephone and if necessary, personally proceed to that station.

I trust that no serious situation will be uncovered, and I will make every effort to bring about a proper relationship between the white and Japanese soldiers at the earliest possible date.

L. J. McNAIR
Lt. Gen., U.S.A.
Commanding

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (F)
Authority 740062
By MS NARA Date 7/1/94

CONFIDENTIAL

ASW 342.18 J.A. Holz Infantry,

442nd

365.8 J.A. Morale X-Army Ground Forces, (C.G.)

25 Sept 43

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 740062
By MS NARA Date 4.18.03

(25)

23 September 1943

Dear General McNair:

As you know, I have followed the conduct of the 442nd Combat Team at Camp Shelby primarily because of my interest in the development of the organization. As a result of my interest I receive from the G-2 Division of the War Department General Staff information about it, including excerpts of censored letters, which they collect.

Soon after the organization of the unit and the designation of its station there were indications that because of its racial characteristics the unit would have difficulties in the southern station of Camp Shelby, and I was importuned to have it transferred to a northern station. Since I was aware that consideration already had been given to this matter I resisted all requests for transfer. My thought was that while there might be some difficulty with the white citizens of Hattiesburg, it was just as well for the Japanese Americans to come into contact with the situation and solve it. However, friction with the white people of Hattiesburg did not develop to any serious extent and I am told that the relations between the Japanese Americans and the towns people, while not on a particularly cordial plane, are friendly.

I also anticipated there might be some difficulty and friction between the Japanese Americans and the white troops at Camp Shelby, but it never occurred to me that it would develop to serious proportions. However, from the information furnished to me, it has developed to a greater extent than I expected. In observing the censored mail of the Japanese Americans from Hawaii I have noted what appears to be an increase in hostility between the white soldiers and the Japanese American soldiers. In the main the antagonism appears to be centered around the white soldiers venting their feeling against the Japanese Americans either in opprobrious terms or in more direct action.

ASW 342.18 J.A. Infantry - 442nd I

353.8 J.A. Morale

X- a- Army Ground Forces, C.G.
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23 Sept 43

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 740062
By MS NARA Date 7/1/03

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Authority NND 740062
By MS NARA Date 9.18.03

My concern is that this friction may lead to mass action with not only unfortunate results, but to a most harmful propaganda exploitation.

Since I know nothing of what is being done at Camp Shelby to eliminate the reported friction between the two groups I hesitate to propose a cure except to suggest that if animosities are the result of ignorance, an educational program might do much to correct the misunderstanding. If the animosity of the white troops is based solely upon prejudice, which I doubt, I know of no sure way to overcome it, though again education might help.

It is not my intention in writing this letter to request that corrective measures be initiated; in fact the situation may not be as bad as I am led to believe it is; but since it may be you have not received the information as I have it I wanted to let you know what I have heard.

Sincerely,

(SIGNED) JOHN J. McCLOY

John J. McCloy

Lt. General L. J. McNair
Commanding General, Army Ground Forces
Army War College, Room 25
4th and P Streets, S. W.
Washington, D. C.

OASH;WPS;MDH

Encls.

7 Excerpts, Enclosed Ltr.

~~**CONFIDENTIAL**~~

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

ASW 342.18 J.A. Infantry

442nd

Dispatched 24 September, 1943ADDRESSEE: Lt. General J. L. McNair
C.G., AGF
Army War College, Rm. 25
4th & P Streets, NW
Washington, DCSUBJECT: Location of 442nd Combat Team at Shelby and probable
race friction in South
Receipt of the following ~~secret~~ confidential paper from the

Office of the Assistant Secretary of War is acknowledged:

Orig. ltr. 23 Sept 43 to CG, AGF fm. ASWEnclosing 7 excerpts of Ex Censored ltr.

Date:

24 September '43

 (Signature)

 (Grade)

 (Office)

NOTE: This receipt is to be signed and returned immediately to:

Assistant Secretary of War
Room 3-E-961, Pentagon Bldg.
Washington, D. C.Note - New Address
4E-888, Pentagon Building
Arlington, Virginia

24 Sept 43

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Authority NND 740062
By MS NARA Date 4.18.03

HEADQUARTERS THIRD ARMY
Office of the Commanding General

AG 250.1 GNMCI

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 13526, 13526 (C) and 13526 (D)
Authority NND 740062
By gpc NARS, Date 7/1/79

Subject: Conditions Affecting General Welfare of Members of 442nd Combat Team (Japanese-American), Camp Shelby, Mississippi.

To : Commanding General, Army Ground Forces, Army War College, Washington, 25, D. C.

1. The letter dated 25 September 1943 from the Commanding General, Army Ground Forces, together with excerpts from censorship letters were forwarded to the Commanding General, IX Corps, 27 September 1943, with instructions to carefully investigate and to examine thoroughly the matters presented by the Assistant Secretary of War (Inclosure 1).

2. The Commanding General, IX Corps, devoted three (3) days to inquiries at Camp Shelby with respect to this matter. He conferred with the Camp Commander, Commanding General 69th Infantry Division, Commanding General, 65th Infantry Division and the Commanding Officer, 1st Headquarters, Special Troops, Third Army. The situation was discussed and all Third Army Commanders were directed to instruct their commands to be courteous toward the Japanese-American soldiers and to avoid all occurrences which might lead to friction. The Camp Commander agreed to do likewise with all Army Service Force Troops under his command. The need for continuous emphasis of this matter was stressed to insure instruction to constantly changing personnel.

3. The Commanding General, IX Corps, states that the 442nd Combat Team is becoming established and accepted in its present station, and that conditions have been steadily getting better. He states that there have been only three known cases of friction between these racial groups during the month of September. His separately expressed opinions, based upon his own inquiries and observations, are in agreement with the facts, conclusions, and recommendation of his inspector general in the inclosed report.

4. This headquarters is in agreement with the expressed opinion of the Commanding General, IX Corps, that movement of the 442nd Infantry Combat Team to another camp would be disadvantageous, as it would require a new period of adjustment. Such adjustment at the present station has made material progress and the situation has been steadily improving. Further and continuous improvement is anticipated and appropriate steps will be taken to secure it.

Encls.

Incl. #1 - Ltr. fr CG, AGF, 25 Sep 43, to CG, Third Army, w/2 Wr Inds & 1 Incl. (Ltr fr ASW, 23 Sep 43, to CG, AGF, w/7 Incls).

Incl. #2 - Report of Inves, Hq. IX Corps, 2 Oct 43, subject, "Inves, of Conditions Affecting General Welfare of Members of 442 Combat Team (Japanese-American)."

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Incl. #2 - Report of Inves, Hq. IX Corps, 2 Oct 43, subject, "Inves, of Conditions Affecting General Welfare of Members of 442 Combat Team (Japanese-American)."

ASW 342.18 J.A. Infantry

442nd

19 October 1943

Dear General McNair:

I am returning herewith the report of investigation of conditions affecting members of the 442nd Combat Team at Camp Shelby. This thorough study of present conditions reassures me that the situation is not serious and is improving gradually.

The report of the fine performance of the 100th Battalion in battle will be of great interest to the 442nd and should act as a spur to their efforts to further improve their present very creditable record.

Sincerely,

(SIGNED) JOHN J. McCLOY

John J. McCloy

Lt. General L. J. McNair
Commanding General, Army Ground Forces
Room 25, Army War College
Washington, D. C.

Enc. Ltr. undated from General Hodges & report.

OASW
HAG:MS
JJMcC

342.18 J.A. Infantry
100th
a- Army Ground Forces, CG
x-
=====

19 Oct 43

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 13526, Sec. 2.10 and 2.11
Authority MS NARS, Date 7/1/74
By exc

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ASW 353.8 J.A. - Moreale (Hawaiian)

ASW 342.18 J.A. - INFANTRY (442nd)

29 August 1943

Dear Colonel Pence:

From a recent MID report, I learned that the 442nd Infantry Combat Team has made commendable and favorable progress. The report indicates a general improvement in morale and an understanding of the social conditions confronting it in its Southern station. However, one sour note does appear in this report.

In the relations between the Mainlanders and the Hawaiians, there appears to be one thing which might cause some interior dissension and which might adversely effect both the training and the general esprit d'corps. Resolved to a basic factor, it seems that the Hawaiians resent the fact (if it is a fact) that most of the key non-commissioned officer positions are filled by Mainlanders, although they, the Hawaiians, are in the majority.

I feel certain that you are entirely cognizant of this situation, and it is not my intention to suggest that this report conveys the presently existing condition nor to suggest a course of action to you; but I feel it is only fair to let you know what the information is up here.

Since this same note has been sounded by virtually everyone who has looked over the 442nd Infantry Combat Team there must be some correctness to the current MID report.

The latest direct information this office has had about the matter came from Mr. John Terry, correspondent for the Honolulu Star Bulletin, who recently was a visitor at Camp Shelby. Mr. Terry, in an oral report to me, said that the condition did exist but it was his feeling that the matter was being adjusted gradually by the promotion of qualified Hawaiians.

The Assistant Secretary, Mr. McCloy, is pleased with the reports he has seen and has expressed his desire to make a visit to Camp Shelby and see the organization upon the first available opportunity.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

WILLIAM P. SCOBEE
Colonel, General Staff

Executive to Ass't Secretary of War

Colonel C. W. Pence
Commanding
442nd Infantry Combat Team
Camp Shelby, Mississippi

casw:wpj:maw

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Authority

By

740062

NARS, Date

7/1/72

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Authority NND 740062
By MS NARA Date 4.18.03HEADQUARTERS
754th MILITARY POLICE BATTALION(Z.I.)
Camp Flint, Auburn, Calif

June 12, 1943

319.1.

SUBJECT: Loomis, California, Incident of June 11/43 involving Pvt Wilson Haruo Makabe, ASN 39916006.

TO : Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2 Hq Western Defense Command and Fourth Army, Presidio of San Francisco, Calif. THRU: Commanding Officer 754th MP Bn, Camp Flint, Auburn, Calif., and Commanding Officer, Hq Central Security District, NSC, San Francisco, Calif.

1. At 1330, June 11, 1943, subject soldier (Japanese), being on furlough from Camp Shelby, Mississippi, entered the Nash De Camp Packing House (fruit) at Loomis, Calif. and approached Charles E. Day, Manager, asking information concerning his father's (Shinzo Makabe) fruit yield and disposal of same. Shinzo Makabe was evacuated prior to May 14, 1942, has been in Tule Lake Relocation Center until recently, but is now reported employed by Kenyon Green, Twin Falls, Idaho.

2. Subject soldier's approach was noticed by employees of the Loomis Fruit Growers' Association, an adjacent, competing concern, and these employees joined with those of Nash De Camp in "walking out" and refusing to return to work as long as the subject soldier was permitted to remain on the premises. Threats were made of violence and remarks were made in evident anger as follows: "Get a rope", "Run him out of town", "Wearing an American uniform by a Jap is a disgrace to the Army", "So this is the kind of an Army we have", "No wonder the Japs licked us in the Pacific", "We won't allow 'yellow-bellies' around here", "A spy in disguise", and similar threatening remarks. White persons known to subject soldier refused to talk to him other than Manager Day, who warned him he was in danger. Subject soldier asked for police protection, whereupon Mr Day called the sheriff's office in Auburn, California, asking aid. The sheriff's office then called this headquarters for advice and assistance.

3. This headquarters dispatched a soldier from this headquarters who interviewed the subject soldier, his papers were examined by an office of this post, and subject soldier was returned to Loomis under military protection to wind up some affairs and then escorted to a bus in Auburn, Calif., at 1945, which conveyed him out of this area.

4. Over two hundred employees were involved in the "walk-out", others were prepared to walk out had not subject soldier been removed by military authorities. Informants state that there are six fruit houses employing five hundred persons in Loomis, California, that over one thousand car loads of fruit would have been tied up there with the season in full swing had the "walk-out" continued. That fruit would have been ruined with attendant economic loss

(Continued)

-1-

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E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(c) and 5(c) for (S)
Authority NND 740062
By SP-6 NARS Date 7/1/74
Incl #1~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

319.1 Report on Incident Loomis, Calif, June 11/43, Involving Pvt Wilson Haruo Makabe, ASN 39916006. Intelligence Officer 754th MP Bn to AC of S, G-2, W.D.C. and 4th Army. Page Two

(Continued)

to growers and processors alike, besides the violence that appeared evident.

5. Mr. Charles E. Day of Nash De Camp states a Japanese in the Army of the United States named Casma Sakamoto, ASN 17145534, located in barracks G, School and Student Dept, Camp Savage, Minnesota, intends to come to Loomis on June 18, 1943. He states trouble will result and asks that he be not permitted to come to Loomis.

6. Feeling against the Japanese in this area is intense, and Japanese returning here either from Relocation Centers or in uniform from Army Camps will undoubtedly cause trouble. Nine out of ten persons interviewed are outspoken in their denunciation of all Japanese ever returning here. They feel no different either though the Japanese may be serving in the armed forces of the United States as they doubt their sincerity and good faith.

7. The employees that "walked out" at Loomis have the full support of the citizens at large in this area.

/s/ Keene Saxon

KEENE SAXON
1st Lt 754th MP Bn
Intelligence Officer

319.1

1st Ind.

HRP/k1b

Hq 754th MP Bn, Camp Flint, Auburn, Calif, June 12, 1943

TO: Commanding Officer, Hq Central Security District, NSC, 625 Sutter Street, San Francisco, (2) California.

For the Commanding Officer:

/s/ H. R. Pierson

H. R. PIERSON
1st Lt 754th MP Bn
Adjutant

DECLASSIFIED
EXC 240-062
11/74

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

21 June 1943

Dear Mr. Holifield:

I am enclosing herewith the two documents which I said I would send to you, viz., the questionnaire which each Nisei of military age was required to fill out in the presence of the Army interrogating teams sent to the relocation centers in connection with induction for the Army; and, a copy of the reports made by Japanese American soldiers belonging to the 433rd Infantry Combat Team relating in brief their experiences when they visited the West Coast following their induction into the service. This report is confidential and it is requested that the details as relate to the individual soldiers and their names be not revealed. There is no objection to any statements you wish to make citing the experiences of the soldiers as long as the individual is not named. In other words we would not want any particular soldier to experience criticism or be subjected to public advertisement for the statements he had made under confidential circumstances.

I feel my visit with you was profitable for it gave to me a better appreciation of the Congressional situation and I hope it will establish a foundation upon which the War Department, or at least those of us in the War Department who are concerned with the Japanese problem, can work with mutual understanding to the correct solution of a very perplexing and involved problem.

(SIGNED)

WILLIAM P. SCOBEE
Colonel, General Staff
Executive to Ass't. Secretary of War

Congressman Chet Holifield
House Office Building
Washington, D. C.

Encs.

OASW:WPS:MS

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ED 1162 Sec. 3(e) and 501 (c) (3)
NARS Date 7/11/01
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7/11/01

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ASW 342.18 J.A. - INFANTRY (442nd)
Classif. No. ASW 014-211 WDO-Permits to Enter/Travel
342.18 9A. *Handwritten signature*

21 June 43

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF WAR

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Authority NND 740062

By MS NARA Date 9.18.03

Letters from soldiers of the 100th Bn to their relatives and friends back in Hawaii were censored for a time. - The attached file contains extracts from these letters - They give a look behind the curtain -

Very interesting

Noted 

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DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 740062
By MS NARA Date 7.18.03

May 8, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF, G-3:

I have always had doubts about the wisdom of sending the Japanese units to Camp Shelby solely because of the deep racial prejudices that exist in the far South.

A recent study has been made of the censored correspondence of the 100th Battalion to their relatives and friends in Hawaii. While the letters gave very comforting evidence of the patriotism and desire to prove themselves true Americans in combat, there is a strong note of complaint of the difference in attitude of the people in Wisconsin and in Mississippi towards them. Their liberties are fewer, their acceptance is more reluctant, etc.

From other sources, I understand there is some increasing uncertainty among the local population as to how the Japanese Americans should be treated. This is creating uneasiness in the unit at a time when it is most important for them to keep their mind on their work. While this may not do them any harm in the long run, would you consider the advisability and the practicability of shifting these men from the deep South, where the color lines are so severely drawn, to northern localities, where their morale may be less affected and the danger of incidents more remote.

Other elements in the correspondence clearly indicate, I think, their worth as soldiers.

(SIGNED)

JOHN J. McCLOY
Assistant Secretary of War

A. C. of S., G-3
Room 3A-882
Pentagon Bldg.

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JJMCC:JHS

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Authority: 11552, Sec. 3(e) and 5(p) or (f)
NND 740062
7/1/74
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

*Camp Shelby
422 Infantry*

*9-5-3
2-5-3*

5-8-43

4500 342.18

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~CORRESPONDENCE OF THE 100TH INFANTRY BATTALION
(JAPANESE-HAWAIIANS)

(Prepared in Service Mail Section)

- I. Attitude toward the South
- II. Indignation over treatment of the negro in the South
- III. Feeling toward Japanese-American soldiers from the mainland
- IV. Impressions of Relocation Centers
- V. The 100th Infantry as soldiers
 - A. The recent maneuvers
 - B. Comments of the officers
 - C. Advice to the volunteers from Hawaii
- VI. Evidence of unfair treatment
- VII. The 100th Infantry's patriotism and desire to prove themselves true Americans

W.D.DIST:

1 G-1
1 G-3
1 SSB
1 8 CA
1 CB
23 Apr 43
RWL/mgf

Colonel William P. Scobey
6 May 43
/ep

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NND 740062
By 616 7/1/74

~~FROM THE OFFICE OF THE
GROUP CENSORSHIP BRANCH~~

From HHD, Counter Intelligence
Group, Censorship Branch

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CPNO

THE 100TH INFANTRY BATTALION

This report has been compiled from letters written by members of the 100th Infantry Battalion to their families, sweethearts, and friends in Hawaii. The 100th Infantry, stationed at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, is a group composed of Hawaiians of Japanese ancestry. From March 1 through April 7, three hundred and eighty-eight of their letters have been studied in an attempt to give an accurate representation of the Hawaiian in his role of an American soldier.

For the most part, the characteristics of the 100th Infantry soldier are clear-cut and easily discernible. He is a faithful correspondent, writing often and at considerable length. His letters reveal him as a well-educated person who makes excellent if a trifle flowery use of the English language. Out of the entire collection, there have been only two of the letters written in Japanese and the percentage of use of Japanese words is very small.

The most outstanding single trait of the 100th Infantry is the mass opinion which is expressed in the letters. Each correspondent might well be considered representative of the entire Infantry. Allowing for some small shades of difference in individual personalities, the attitudes of the soldiers vary little at a given time. Letter after letter reflects similar beliefs, emotions, and prejudices prevailing among the group during that period. The 100th Infantry solidarity of opinion is comparable to D'Artagnon and his famous "all for one and one for all" sentiments.

I. ATTITUDE TOWARD THE SOUTH.

In the earlier letters, the predominant emotion of the 100th Infantry seems to be an acute dislike for the South. The basis for this intensity of feeling apparently lies in the difference in attitude of the people of the North and South. In Wisconsin, where they were previously stationed, the 100th Infantry soldiers were welcomed and accepted. The South, they feel, does not show a similar alacrity in offering them hospitality or acceptance. Consequently, this lack of cordiality, the apparent root of all evil in the Hawaiians' case, brings forth a torrent of vitriolic comment. A typical statement:

"The people here in the South are generally not as generous with their smiles as we found it in Wisconsin—I can almost say they guard it almost as carefully as they do their sugar." (March 4)

The southerners are described as being "as cold as the snow of Wisconsin." and "They seem.....almost screening themselves behind

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NARS, Date 7/1/21

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thick walls of ignorance" (March 12) The dearth of hospitality is mentioned;

"These people around here never think of doing things to help us feel at home. In other words they don't have the Hawaiian hospitality which all soldiers in Hawaii are receiving and yet expect the people back home do more for them. I personally think they are selfish. I hope they would begin to think a little instead of sitting on their brains. I know every parent expects their sons to have good treatment while away from home and they don't realize we expect the same." (March 17)

One soldier accuses: "The Southerners, from my observation, are a very prejudiced group. You can just sense the feeling whenever we approach them even though we have no trouble with them." (March 29)

Another makes the usual comparison: "I never came across any people like the one of the North yet you could see plainly the difference between the North & the South. The Northerners as I mentioned in my original letters; are frank, generous, and friendly." (March 23)

An often reiterated complaint is aimed at southern women: "In the North lot of girls were going steady by now with our boys but here no one has a chance." (March 29)

The soldiers lose few opportunities to declare their views on Camp Shelby and neighboring territory. Their enmity covers rather thoroughly the entire South, its inhabitants, both animal and insect, its climate and terrain.

"Didn't I tell you that Mississippi is full of swamps, snakes and lizards of all sizes and shapes. And that the weather is "populi"--hot enough for sunburn and the next minute pneumonia weather--" (March 12)

Another irate Hawaiian sums up the opinion of the Infantry: "such is the south--give it back to the niggers free of charge, and I bet the niggers won't take it." (March 23)

The most logical analysis of the situation is given by a technical sergeant: "I can say Wisconsin was a far better state than Mississippi. We had many advantages there and traveled a lot. Of course, it was very cold but we liked it and the snow. Taking many snow pictures was something new and different. Well that is all past now as we can't have any camera here in Mississippi. Tough though but its getting to be serious after sometime. We had many passes and furloughs up in Wisconsin but couldn't get here. We are

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Authority NND 740062
By exc NARS, Date 7/1/24~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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3.

really training here and maneuvers after maneuvers. I guess we are making up for what we goldbrick in Wisconsin." (March 23)

This expression of overwhelming prejudice against the South lessens noticeably midway in the collection of 100th Infantry letters. A few of the later intercepts point to increased tolerance and deepening understanding, for example: "I thought we wouldn't be treated fair out here--but on the contrary the people met were very nice to us. Some of them knew we were Japanese but others thought we were either Chinese or Filipinos, after we told them most of them would say it doesn't matter what race you are but the course you are fighting for. Those things really makes us happy knowing that in the world there are some people who are broad minded enough to understand." (March 16)

There are additional admissions such as: "Hattiesburg has one of the best organized U.S.O for a small town," and that New Orleanians are "very nice people." (March 29)

II. INDIGNATION OVER TREATMENT OF NEGRO IN THE SOUTH.

Later letters evidence an increasing awareness of and indignation over the treatment of the negro in the South. At first there was only disinterested comment on the segregation of the negro. The sender in one of the earlier letters mentions casually:

"The first thing I noticed is the different between the colored and white. They both have their own places to go, We are fortunate to be treated like the white." (March 15)

But the acute feeling is seen in the later intercepts: "I noticed that the negroes are treated just like rubbish down here esp. in New Orleans. I've mentioned some things I noticed but in New Orleans even the streetcars have negro sections. The rear part of the street cars are reserved for the negroes. Talk about democracy." (March 29)

Another outburst in similar vein: "One thing about the south--no matter where you go you see that the negros are looked down on--and it makes my blood boil. No--not cause I like negros but the principal of the thing. On the streetcars the last four seats (Honolulu's smoker seats) are for the negros. They dare not sit in front of the Barrier (a sign--"For Colored--only"--and in the theatres--they have a "white" entrance & a "colored" entrance." (March 29)

Also: "Negroes are certainly an oppressed race & I never believed till I saw how they are treated. Still they say we are fighting for Democracy!" (March 29)

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These sentiments are reechoed in most of the later letters. "Down South I pity those negroes even if their in uniform," says one Hawaiian (March 23). Another expresses distaste: "Over here it colored or white separated even street car seats. Its really hard to believe sometimes." (March 22) The growing strength of this feeling is evidenced in subsequent correspondence.

III. FEELING TOWARD JAPANESE--AMERICAN SOLDIERS FROM MAINLAND.

Throughout the study, there is recurrent indication of dislike for the Mainland Japanese-American soldiers who are also stationed at Camp Shelby. However, the comments were not sufficient in number to judge as to the prevalence of this opinion.

One 100th Infantry soldier says of the Mainland Japanese: "The Mainland Japanese boys who live next to our camp things the world of us and most every (mainland) boys know what the 100th Inf Bn is, they like to transfer to our unit but we won't except them, as they have their unit, more so they respect everyone of our boys, they never get tough with us, for they know what Hawaii boys are like. We never had trouble with them and they likewise." (March 21)

Another is more disparaging: "The boys here are not so friendly to the boys from the coast and parts on this continent. It seems that boys here don't like their attitude to the officers and act as if are too good to associate with. Some boys describe them as a cocky bunch of boys I am sure our boys that is coming in will have some action right here on the grounds." (March 28)

The strongest accusation is that of a 100th Infantry private: "Some of the boys from the mainland make things tough for us from Hawaii. Their actions towards the civilians around here and their idea of a good soldier is not at all satisfactory. Their conduct toward their officers is nothing to be proud of. We are trying our best to build a reputation for ourselves as well as the people from Hawaii but such conduct by these boys from the Pacific Coast makes it harder to convince the men from D.C. that we are 100% Americans." (March 27)

IV. IMPRESSIONS OF RELOCATION CENTERS.

All mention of relocation camps is favorable. A few of the more pertinent comments; "Many of the fellows have gone to visit their relatives at the two Relocation Centers in Arkansas. They all remarked that conditions are very good at the camps." (March 27)

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"Talked to Doc Tafukugi recently about his trip to Camp Livingston, La where most of internees of Maui are stationed and enjoyed what he had to convey." (April 6)

"I returned home a few days ago from a 12 day furlough. During which time I went to visit father in Lordsburg, New Mexico. It is my fortunate privilege to report to you at this time that he is healthy & looking fine. In fact, I found him to be much fatter & fairer in complexion since the last time I saw him. He is getting very fine treatment & according to him, he has come to like camp life. The barracks in Lordsburg are better than ours & they have the same food we eat daily in the service." (April 7)

V. THE 100TH INFANTRY AS SOLDIERS.

A. The Recent Maneuvers

Perhaps the 100th Infantry arouses greatest interest when viewed as participants in the actual Army routine. Their comments on the recent maneuvers reveal intense pride in their ability as soldiers. They do the normal amount of complaining but, in the main, appear well pleased with themselves and their work in the field. "It's not like the ukulele army any more." says one enthusiast, "This is the real stuff just like the commando's, guys with a lot of guts," (March 27) Another calls the training "tough but necessary." (March 16) A third exclaims cheerfully: "Oh, it aint so tough as that. It is moments like these you can smile with a secret delight that you took it all like a soldier." (March 14) There are a few who incline to the poetic in their description of maneuvers. For example, the nature lover who says: "Met up with a skunk, beautiful animal." (March 16)

B. Comments of the Officers

One especially noticeable characteristic of the 100th Infantry is the deep personal satisfaction taken by each of its members in praise from his officers. Discussing the recent maneuvers: "The Commanding General said that he'd never seen team work as good as ours in his whole army career. Coming from a General that's something any body can really be proud of." (March 29)

One of the soldiers tells an interesting story: "We had good news today from the commanding officer. It seems one of our officers thought the communication gang wasn't working as hard as it should so told the C. O. about it. The latter, however, told the other officer that we were the hardest working section in the company--working 24 hours at a time--at least there is someone back of us." (March 30)

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Many other similar statements are proudly sent back to Hawaii. In a letter to his mother, a private boasts: "The general in command did say that the men of the 100th Inf., were crack and ready troops." (March 16) "The officers say we are rugged" declares another, "and we can take whats coming to us." (March 16)

C. Advice to Volunteers From Hawaii

The 100th Infantry is ready with advice for the volunteers from Hawaii who are coming to one of the United States army camps. This advice, for the most part, is sound, sensible, and singularly uncomplaining. Speaking of the volunteers, one of the 100th Infantry members says: "I'm sure they are the true Americans with loyalty etc. sacrifice their life to the country." (March 16) Another tells his friend:

"I like your spirit in trying to enlist and show your stuff to 'Uncle Sam.' However I hope you won't be disappointed if you never come across the experiences we had at Camp McCoy where we had a swell time and were given furloughs to distant cities. You probably will be due for a lot of hard work, so expect the worse and train diligently to become a better soldier." (March 28)

"I had a letter from Manco the other day and he volunteered the poor sucker. I guess it must be pretty hard for them not to volunteer, Yeah! I know I would I was kidding when I said sucker 'cause there's more at stake besides one's own life, in fact everyones future living in the U. S. is at stake." (March 16)

Sagacious counsel is often given: "don't come here with the illusion of a pleasure trip for you'll be sadly dissapointed. Army life isn't so easy, and one must undergo many sacrifices. He'll do a lot of squaking and grumbling. For they say a good soldier always squaks and grumbles at least thrice a day. But if you think of coming here to train and smile it thru you'll find it okay." (March 30)

VI. EVIDENCE OF UNFAIR TREATMENT.

One of the most searched-for points in this study is the evidence of unfair treatment to the Hawaiian soldiers which might lead to undermining of morale. Of the three hundred and eighty-eight 100th Infantry letters examined, only a few reveal any possibility of bad morale or unfair treatment by fellow military personnel. The first two 100th Infantry letters read are of this type. The sender of the first letter complains that often the "white beanies" ride while they have to walk; that the whites laugh about the situation, but the Hawaiians become so incensed that they yell at them. The second intercept concerns a question asked one of the 100th Infantry boys by a chaplain at Camp Shelby:

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"We went to commissary to buy some canned goods this afternoon. There was a chaplain (Lt. Col) who apparently knew we are from Hawaii. The first he asked whether we speak English. Then we started to talk about this southern cold weather. Then he said I want to ask you a question "In Japanese Army does priest followed like in the American Army." The boy who was asked the question replied I don't know, Sir. After we came out of the commissary, we were so anrry about asking us such a foolish question. If he asked me that question, I would have replied "I don't know any more than you about the Japanese Army set-up. You will be surprised how people are ignorant." (March 2)

Another of the Hawaiian soldiers remarks that he likes army life fairly well except that sometimes their only food is bread and water or grapes and coffee. (March 4) There is a reference in one of the later letters to the "raw deal" given to the 100th Infantry by the judges in a camp boxing tournament who: "gave the decision to a haole when he didn't deserve it. Everyone booed the referee and the other for the raw deal. How they are going to match the two again. Evidently the haoles realized the mistake they had made." (March 30).

A non-commissioned officer complains bitterly over lack of promotion and says that they will never get anywhere at Camp Shelby but will be "duration corporals." He continues:

"If you can see those who earns more and have higher ratings (grades) than us you'll understand. What really burns us up is that the officers think we can't do anything but push pen or pound a typewriter. And these new "kodonks" here don't know a stick from a rifle nor anything about administration and yet they are promoted to Master Sgt. 1st Sgt, staff and what nots." (April 5).

Some pertinent statements pointing to prejudice toward these Hawaiians was taken from two letters which were not written by the 100th Infantry group. In the first, from New Orleans, the sender tells of a visit to La Garde General Hospital and her meeting with one of the 100th Infantry boys who is a patient there:

"Last night while I was at the hospital one of the older patients asked me if I wouldn't go over and speak to a soldier boy by the name of "Matsuko". All the boys said he was a "jap" & they didnt like the idea of me talking to him, so anyway I went over & spoke to him & found him to be a very educated boy & it just made him feel happy because I went over & spoke to him. His mother & Dad & his grandparents were all born in Honolulu. To-day the Red Cross from La Garde called me and tole me that they heard that I broke the ice for "Matsuko" and it seems as though all the boys are now mingling in with him." (March 20)

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The second letter, from a private in the 338th Infantry, Camp Shelby is grimmer in tone: "we also have Japs in this camp. They come from across and are Americans. But I don't care for any of them. They were on maneuvers with us. On the problem's we had and Jap's were the enemies.....We had a problem with the Jap's and we had to attack them. Well we did, and had a fight with them. Some of the fellows in our company and in other one's really gave it to them. I mean some of them were full of blood. The Captains and Lieut. couldn't even stop us. The fellows here really hate them." (March 28)

These two intercepts were chance correlations with the mail from the 100th Infantry. They are included in this analysis for any value they may have in relation to the activities and sentiments of the 100th Infantry as revealed in their own correspondence.

VII. 100TH INFANTRY'S PATRIOTISM AND DESIRE TO PROVE THEMSELVES TRUE AMERICANS.

The strongest emotion expressed by the 100th Infantry throughout their letters is their sincere patriotism combined with an ardent desire to be of credit to Hawaii. The letters indicate a prevalent awareness of the "hades" distrust of their group because of its ancestry. Their reaction, however, is not one of resentment, rather it prompts expressions of loyalty and pledges to prove themselves true Americans. Most of them seem anxious for overseas actions, and consider it the best way to prove their worth. One says earnestly: "Us soldiers are different from the others, we have our goal to look for and for this goal lots of us guys, in fact every body of us must sacrifice our lives to this task to show the rest of the Americans that we soldiers or rather I should say we Americans of Japanese ancesteries are as loyal as any of them. And this must be proven in reality." (March 4)

Another tells his sister: "you will put your chin up and do your best for old Uncle Sam. For my part I'm the same as usual putting my heart and soul for him and you folks at home." (March 16)

"Let it be known that whatever we do we'll make Hawaii proud of it's own (March 28) proclaims a 100th Infantry soldier. The chief aim of the 100th Infantry is defined: "Whereever we go--whatever we do, always uppermost in our minds are--we must prove ourselves of credit to our friends and folks back home." (March 4)

In another letter, the sender says: "Truthfully speaking --our main thought is to do a good job on the Battlefield--but until that time comes--our behavior on the training field and in these strange cities must do." (March 4)

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The views of the battalion are best expressed in the following intercept; "When you come down to cold facts, I think this eagerness to serve our country in time of need is the only way of showing the rest of the Americans that we too can be trusted and be depended upon to defend America from all enemies." (March 27)

One boy, in a letter to his mother, recites the creed for which he is fighting: "As you have said long before this war ever started to me I know "This is your country so when It needs your service do serve it well." Now being this far away from home these words are always my only guiding words.

This country I know do have its right and too its wrong but it has I know given me a lot of dear things and so too for these dear things I shall serve. As for the wrongs I know one day she will correct herself. For what is a country or man without a little wrong to correct someday. This is the way I think people learn to love and not to hate." (March 16)

The patriotism of the 100th Infantry might be summed up in the words of one of its soldiers: "I certainly will give all I've got for my country and it is not for no emperor or a sun goddess, but for God & my country." (March 27)

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Authority NND 740062

By MS NARA Date 9.18.03

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June 15, 1944

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I think you will be interested in this account of how some of the nisei are operating with the Army in the Pacific theatre.

I think that although this material might be useful for publicity, I cannot release it because it might very well result in trouble for the nisei and also acquaint the Japanese forces with the fact that they are operating in this way in combat, thus causing them to alter their tactics.

Although the President has decided not to undertake the large program that General Emmons had in mind, I do think that you should consider the advisability of relatively minor relaxations in the existing restrictions. The restrictions on close relatives of soldiers might be one of the first things we could deal with. As I gathered from the President, the important thing was to do it on a nationwide scale, intensifying if possible relocation activities in other areas, but at the same time infiltrating small groups into communities in California without publicity and after careful checking of the receptivity of the community itself.

Sincerely,

(SIGNED) JOHN J. ABGLOV

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Interior

Enc.

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ASW 342.18 J. A. INFANTRY REGIMENT 475TH

ASW 342.18 J.A. Performance of Duty

15 June 44

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(a) and 5(a) of TEL
Authority NND 740062
By OKC NARS, Date 7/1/74

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 740062
By MS NARA Date 4.18.03

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (E)

NND 740062

By ERC NARS, Date 7-9-74

June 15, 1944

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I think you will be interested in this account of how some of the nisei are operating with the Army in the Pacific theatre.

I think that although this material might be useful for publicity, I cannot release it because it might very well result in trouble for the nisei and also acquaint the Japanese forces with the fact that they are operating in this way in combat, thus causing them to alter their tactics.

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Sincerely,

(SIGNED) JOHN J. McCLOY

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Interior

Enc.

WDOAS
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ASW 342.18 J. A. Performance of Duty

(Japanese in Pacific)

342.18 J. A. Infantry Regiment, 475th
352 Military Intel. Language School (Savage)

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15 June 44

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WAR DEPARTMENT
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION G-2
WASHINGTON

11 June 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF WAR.

Subject: Nisei Translators and Interpreters.

There is attached a report made by the Army Ground Forces representative in the China-Burma-India Theater, which is extremely laudatory concerning the effective work done by Japanese-American military personnel (Nisei), trained at the Military Intelligence Language School at Camp Savage, Minnesota. I think this report will be of great interest to you.

194.

Clayton Bissell
CLAYTON BISSELL
Major General
A.C. of S., G-2

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E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(2) and 5(D) (1974)
NND 740062
By ERC NARS, Date 7-9-74

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Authority NND 740062
By MS NARA Date 4.18.03

THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF WAR
JUN 12 1944
WAR DEPT.

9 June 1944

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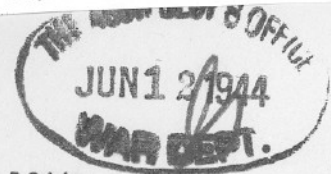
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Authority NND 740062
By MS NARA Date 4.18.03

C O P Y

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9 June 1944

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 13(E) and (D)
NND 740062
By ERC NARS, Date 7-9-74

MEMORANDUM:

Subject: Nisei.

1. A report by Lt. Colonel Marcel G. Crombez, AGF special representative in CBI, contains the following which will be of interest to you in connection with Nisei training.

a. The Nisei personnel which were attached to First Galahad (475th Infantry Regiment) have proven to be of great value to that organization. In every instance the men have been loyal and demonstrated great courage in carrying out their assignments.

b. They have proven their usefulness in the following manner:

(1) Interpreting for U. S. officers Japanese commands which were clearly distinguishable in close combat in which this organization took part.

(2) Translating, identifying, and selecting important Japanese documents for immediate dispatch to higher headquarters.

(3) As interpreters accompanying patrols.

c. One incident is worthy of note. During the early stages of the campaign in the Mogaung Valley the Second Galahad Battalion, executing a flanking movement, was surrounded by Jap elements for a period of thirteen days. During the last day the Japanese attacked the Second Battalion's position sixteen times. Each time the battalion commander was able to anticipate the direction of the attack due to the fact that the Nisei attached to his staff were able to overhear the Jap officers' instructions which they were shouting to their subordinates. The visibility

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in the area averaged 20 to 30 yards, and the attacking force was but 50 to 70 yards away, and the commands could be clearly heard. Through the interpretation of their commands the Second Battalion Commander, Lt. Colonel George A. Magee, Jr., was able to shift his troops to block the main Jap effort and to concentrate his fire on the Japs as they endeavored to penetrate the battalion's lines. At the end of the day the interpreters told the battalion commander that the Jap officers were reprimanding the Jap soldiers for lack of courage, to which the soldiers were replying and offering as an excuse the numbers that had been killed or were missing.

/s/ W. H. WOOD

W. H. WOOD,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Chief, Asiatic Theater,
Theater Group, OPD