

DECEMBER 2020 *PUKA-* *PUKA PARADE* ADDENDUM



VISIT TO NEWLY OPENED NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE U.S. ARMY!

by CAPT WADE ISHIMOTO, USA (Ret)

Japanese American Veterans Association e-Advocate, December 1, 2020

ROD AZAMA and I toured the National Museum of the U.S. Army on November 23, 2020. The Museum, set adjacent to Ft. Belvoir in Northern Virginia, is striking and impressive both inside and out. The building commands attention, the silent and strong type, as it rises from a grassy expanse. Inside, exhibits, galleries, and films tell the stories of individuals, units, and campaigns from the Nation's colonial times to current conflicts. (Above photo of the Museum's exterior by Rod Azama)

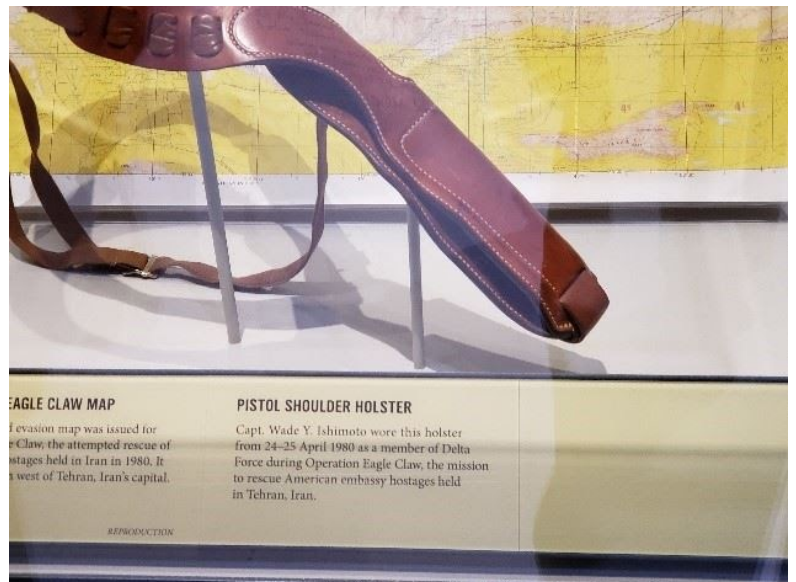
The Nisei World War II story is spread throughout the Museum in different galleries. The 442nd Regimental Combat Team plaque that the Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA) purchased is in a prominent position on the wall bordering the parking lot and leading to the museum. JAVA is also recognized on a large wall comprising one end of the Veterans Hall as a Silver Oak Leaf Cluster donor. The experience of Nisei soldiers in WWII is showcased on the third floor. A collection of donated artifacts such as an MIS dictionary and hand prosthetic along with photographs help tell the story of the 100th, 442nd, and MIS. A continuously playing video features interviews with **GRANT ICHIKAWA** and **TERRY SHIMA**. Grant is even sporting a JAVA polo shirt in the clip. (Photograph at the top of the next page of the Nisei soldier exhibit which is on the third floor of the Museum by Rod Azama).

Innovative displays using touch screens that one can scroll to find in-depth details are stationed throughout the museum. For example, in the display of Colonel Robert Howard, a deceased friend and Medal of Honor





winner, the touch screen covered Bob's individual actions and the operation that he was on in great detail. It took me some 10 minutes to scroll through his write-up. The exhibits were equally fascinating. I came across one that caught me quite off guard—an exhibit on Operation Eagle Claw, the 1980 attempt to rescue 53 American hostages in Tehran, Iran. I recognized those in the photo as **DENNIS WOLFE, NORM CRAWFORD, and LARRY FRIEDMAN** (who perished in Somalia years later). In the middle of the exhibit was an object that I couldn't quite make out. As I got closer to where I could read what was below the object, I was shocked to see that it was the shoulder holster I wore in Iran on the rescue mission. I believe I had given it to **JOHN BIANCHI**, a close friend whose company made the



holster. John passed away about 10 years ago, so I have no idea who might have donated the holster to the museum. (Photographs on the bottom of the previous page are by Wade Ishimoto. The photo on the left of is of the Operation Eagle Claw exhibit. The photo of the right is of a Pistol Shoulder Holster from the Operation Eagle Claw Exhibit. Capt. Wade Y. Ishimoto wore this holster from 24-25 April 1980 as a member of Delta Force during Operation Eagle Claw, the mission to rescue American embassy hostages held in Tehran, Iran.)

Rod and I had a great time. Highly recommend a tour of the museum.

REFLECTIONS

<https://www.100thbattalion.org/archives/puka-puka-parades/european-campaigns/italian-campaign/reflections/>

Christmas is a time of goodwill and cheer, but it is also a time of sentimentality and reflection. Christmas 1943 has always been one of the most meaningful for me, because it was spent in San Angelo de Alife, Italy.

San Angelo de Alife is a valley with olive and fig orchards. Small farms dot the countryside, and a big cemetery with a high wall abuts the main highway. The war had passed the town. We were pulled off the line for a rest. We pitched pyramidal tents along the slopes of olive orchards, cushioned our floor beds with dry straw, shaved and bathed alongside a well.

The battalion was down to several hundred men. Each of us felt that perhaps this would be the last Christmas in Italy, that there would soon be enough replacements so that we could go home. “Home” was a magic word. It stood for everything that combat did not.

Each company on the Eve of Christmas tried to forget the war for a while, although the distant boom of guns echoed through the valley. A quartet hurriedly marshaled together by Chaplain Yost made the rounds of the battalion. It was a cold, clear night. In candlelight the carolers sang with gusto. Our talk was animated. Our simple comraderie [sic] betrayed our joy in being still alive. Christmas Eve was spent resting and talking by candlelight.

Christmas day brought us turkey and lots of fresh wine. Our company program was makeshift, but anything will all right for us then— we were warm and comfortable and alive. **HUMPHREY BOGART** and his troupe brought a bit of stateside cheer that afternoon at regimental head-quarters.

I really don't know what made that Christmas so meaningful for me. There was nothing we did on that day that was significant. The religious men, and there were some, sought meditation; the sensualists sought relief among the villagers, and some materialists peddled soap bars and cigarettes to the paisans.

We had to go up on line soon after that, and a lot of our friends were killed. But that Christmas in an ancient town among olive trees and hay has always remained with me.....perhaps because it was a break in the war raging around us and in us, a break that was a precursor of better things to come.

GI CHRISTMAS - WALLACE AMIOKA: MIS VET RECALLS HIS CHRISTMAS IN NIIGATA

by BEN TAMASHIRO

Originally published in the Hawaii Herald, 12/16/1988

<https://www.100thbattalion.org/archives/newspaper-articles/ben-tamashiro/gi-christmas/>

One of the immediate consequences of the bombing of Pearl Harbor was that many people found themselves “frozen” to their jobs. Still others were held to their jobs long after the war had ended.

Wallace Amioka, for instance, was placed in a deferred status because he was employed in the petroleum business, vital to the war effort. He was safe from the draft, working in the downtown offices of the Shell Oil Company in the Dillingham Transportation Building in Honolulu. But in January 1944, when the Army's language school at Camp Savage, Minn. came to Hawaii to recruit people skilled in the use of Japanese, Amioka volunteered to take the test. He passed, was inducted into the Army at Schofield Barracks, and was off to Camp Savage along with approximately 300 others. He was 29 when he joined the MIS.

Although the group had been issued some heavy clothing in anticipation of winter in Minnesota, that gear barely kept them from freezing when they arrived at Savage. To make matters worse, they had to walk about a

mile into camp in a blizzard after getting off their train.

The next day, the group went to the supply room to get their winter clothing- but, incredibly, the place was locked! Through the windows they could see the supply people huddled around a hot pot-bellied stove playing cards. They pounded on the door and called out to attract attention, but no one inside made a move. Their own temperatures rising by the second, Amioka and a couple of others broke down the door. They all surged into the room and proceeded to help themselves to long johns and whatever else they needed. The riot act was read to them the following day, but, under the circumstances, no court martial proceedings were taken against them.

After completing the regular language courses, Amioka was sent to Officer Candidate School and returned with the rank of second lieutenant. He was put in charge of 10 interpreters, all GIs of Okinawan ancestry. They formed a team that was being prepared to land on Okinawa with the first of the American invasion forces. Although he is not Okinawan himself, Amioka had learned enough of the language at school to be given operating command of a team that was considered to be an ultra high secret weapon in the MIS (Military Intelligence Service) arsenal. To help guise his mission, for example, when Amioka had to report to his project officer, he would catch the trolley that ran through the camp, pretending he was on his way to Minneapolis. He would then jump off the trolley just before it left camp, and by this circuitous route make his way to his superior's office.

Meanwhile, the bulk of the nisei soldiers in the Army had gone off to war- the 100th Infantry Battalion to Italy in September 1943, followed by the 442nd Regimental Combat Team in June.

American forces invaded Okinawa on April 1, 1945. In order to meet this invasion timetable, Amioka and his team left camp in early March. Encountering a variety of transportation delays at every transfer point between camp and their destination, however, they got to Okinawa three weeks after the invasion had begun. Therefore, operations, assigned to the 27th Infantry Division. Subsequently, with the fall of Okinawa and the dropping of the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan was forced to surrender. And with that, World War II came to an end.

The end of the war, however, was only the beginning of another assignment for Amioka. While most of the team members were discharged from the service, he and a few others were not released by the 27th. The division had been designated for occupation duty in Japan, and shortly he found himself in the division's advance party headed for Atsugi Airfield. They landed on Sept. 7, 1945, right on the heels of Gen. MacArthur's arrival.

"I was in Tokyo for just a short while," says Amioka. "In mid-September I was assigned to Niigata, a large seaport town of about a quarter million people on the Japan Sea. Niigata had been a major embarkation/debarkation point for Japan's ventures into China and Korea, and, with its large industrial base was on the list of targets to be bombed by the Air Force. But the Air Force mistakenly bombed nearby Nagaoka instead. Unscarred by war, that is where I spent my first Christmas in Japan." (Niigata, incidentally, was one of the cities considered for the dropping of the atomic bomb.)

"The Niigata Hotel had been taken over as a billet for company grade officers. I was the only nisei within the group of 30 or 40. Filled with Christmas spirit, more so because this was the first such celebration in Japan for all of us, I decided to light up the party ... with undiluted, concentrated Okinawan potato sake. We had brought bottles of this stuff over with us from Okinawa. Pouring some of the full-strength sake into little cups, I turned off the room lights and lighted some candles. Touching the candles to the cup, the sake burst into flames. It was a great show.

"In the kitchen, I already had sake diluted at 5-to-1; five parts water, that is, the norm for drinking purposes. Flipping on the lights, I called for this diluted sake and we all had a jolly good time. This is one of my fondest memories of the years I spent in Niigata."

Although the war was over and the troops were being rotated home as quickly as possible, those plans did not include medical doctors nor MIS officers like Amioka. "I was told that I was frozen in my job for the next two years. That being so, I decided to call my wife over from Honolulu. When advised that I might have to stay an additional year after that, I said I would take my chances. My wife came over in May 1947 and my first

child was born in Tokyo a year later.”

With a full regiment of the 27th (later the 97th) stationed at Niigata, and still later with the military government team, Amioka, with the help of Japanese lawyers, was kept busy translating documents, newspaper articles, and court records for the military. Conversely, he translated English materials into Japanese for the local government officials.

One of the more interesting aspects of his long stay in Niigata was the fact that Amioka actually comprised a one-man interpreter unit. Operating by himself, ostensibly responsible only to himself, he was attached to the division for logistical support only. As required by regulations, however, he maintained unit reports and records on himself. He could cut whatever orders were necessary on himself. “Hell,” he exclaims, “I could have promoted myself to a general!”

Amioka returned to Hawaii in November 1948 with his family. Discharged, he signed up with the Army Reserves and so was called to service in the Korean War. Today, he keeps himself busy on contract as a public affairs consultant to several petroleum companies. Reflecting back on his MIS experience, Amioka says, “That’s how I came to spend three Christmases in Japan. But the first one was the best.”

STATURE IS NOT A MATTER OF HEIGHT:SHORT VISIT, LIFE-LONG IMPRESSION

by **ROBERT M. HORSTING**

*JAVA E-advocate, December 1, 2020; First printed in the *Rafu Shimpo*, Nov. 5, 2009*

The Sunday before Memorial Day I was listening to the comments of NPR commentator (Cowboy Poet) **BAXTER BLACK**. He recounted an afternoon sitting with his son and dad (asleep in his chair), having just watched a documentary about the USS Enterprise, in which men stayed with wounded comrades rather than swim to safety. The film reminded him of his dad, "**GRANDPA**" **TOMMY**, who served in the navy. Whenever asked about his service "Grandpa" Tommy would jokingly reply, "I saved the world". With Memorial Day approaching, Mr. Black said he would say, "Thanks Grandpa Tommy, for saving the world." as soon as he awoke from his nap.

That account brought to my mind one of those men of World War II. Putting thoughts of personal safety aside as he dove into the heated fuel-filled water of Pearl Harbor to retrieve bodies and remnants of sailors floating amid the wreckage of the battleship Arizona. The attempts had the ring of futility to my ears as he expressed that those he pulled to the docks were beyond needing help, but it was a job that needed to be done. This action evoked the image of a statuesque sailor of Hollywood movies (circa the 1940s) or the strong swimmer’s physique of **JOHNNY WEISSMULLER** (Olympic swim champion/**TARZAN**), so you might be surprised to read



that **LARRY "SHORTY" TAKESHI KAZUMURA** stood a towering 4'-9". (Photograph on previous page of PFC Takeshi Kazumura, possibly the shortest soldier to serve in the U.S. Army, and **LT. JOSEPH LAWRENCE BYRNE** is from the U.S. Signal Corps.)

As the Japanese attack unfurled with the sound of machine-gun fire and the explosions of torpedoes hitting the moored ships, Mr. Kazumura (a member of a civilian work-crew) was busy loading lumber onto a ship, bound for another island. This cargo stayed at Pearl Harbor, quickly fashioned into coffins for the overwhelming body count, which was buried in long trenches by the harbor. Mr. Kazumura was the only man of Japanese heritage left on the base (to his knowledge and for unknown reasons), the others having been escorted off with their arms raised in the air as he watched them march away. Working a 36-hour shift, his prolonged exposure to the fuel and other chemicals in the water resulted in a six-month-long illness

I had the honor of meeting Mr. Kazumura in 2007 when he agreed to participate in an interview with the Go For Broke National Education Center's, Hanashi Oral History Program. Originally born and raised in Hawaii, he later settled in Seattle, Washington, where he joined the Nisei Veterans Committee (NVC). The NVC arranged our introduction and participated in the interview.

Shocked by the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7th, 1941, and angered by the death of his two friends, Mr. Kazumura felt compelled to volunteer his service at the first opportunity. The 100th Battalion (a segregated Japanese American unit) was formed mainly from members of the Hawaiian Territorial Guard and Hawaii based Nisei (second generation) soldiers already in the service when war was declared. The U.S. Military decided to expand the recruitment of these hard training soldiers to include servicemen and volunteers from the mainland and then returned to Hawaii to fill the additional 1,500 men needed to form the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. Mr. Kazumura seized the opportunity to join the ranks. He was initially turned away with the phrase, "Son, you're too short". Overwhelmed by the crush of 10,000 volunteers to fill the 1,500 spots, the initial onsite physicals were dispensed with. He made it past the first station when standing erect, he declared to an officer that his height was 5' or 5'-2", he didn't quite remember. The skeptical officer sent him to the next station and the stature of his determination got him into the unit...that and a later discovered clerical error that lists his height at 5'-8".

"Shorty" spoke of how the issued uniform —designed with the average non-Asian in mind — hung off his body, the sleeves reaching the floor. It evoked the image of a boy wearing his father's uniform on-for-size. Like many of his fellow soldiers, he would have to have the uniform altered. Boots proved to be another challenge, as he was issued a pair of size 8 boots to fit his 2-1/2 EEE feet. His account conveyed both the difficulty of training, as the length of the newspaper-filled boots gave him little traction on a field march and the comical appearance of oversized clown shoes. Our crew found many opportunities for laughter, because he spoke in a light easy manner, with the ability to see a situation as others might and having the gift of being able to laugh at himself.

Despite his height, "Shorty" had a strong physique, which was strengthened by a year-plus of training at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, before the 442nd received orders to ship out and deploy to Europe in May 1944. He also possessed a keen sense of direction, which he proudly proclaimed, won him the first Private First Class rank within his unit, during their first week of training. This ability assured the men of his group that they would find their way back to camp during night-maneuvers training.

"Shorty" was assigned scout and runner (messenger) duties and served as a bodyguard for 1st Lt. (and later, Capt.) Joseph Lawrence Byrne. Shorty's height provided a stark visual contrast to that of Byrne's 6'-4" frame. The two soldiers got along very well because of the mutual respect for each other's abilities, which resulted in their teaming up to survey the landscape whenever I Company would relocate to a new area. "Shorty" expressed concern that Lt. Byrne's height would make him an easy target for the Germans to zero-in-on. He quickly concluded that your height really doesn't matter; recounting an incident where he received nicks and bruises from shrapnel, kicked-up rocks, and debris, while Byrne standing next to him was unscathed.

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THE GO FOR BROKE STAMP

<http://niseistamp.org/>

The U.S. Postal Service will issue the *Go For Broke Soldiers* commemorative postage stamp in 2021!

*We send our heartfelt gratitude to U.S. Postmaster General **LOUIS DEJOY**, former Postmaster General **MEGAN BRENNAN** who was involved in this stamp selection, and the U.S. Postal Service.*

This commemorative stamp is the culmination of over 15 years of efforts by the Stamp Our Story campaign founders and the many people who supported the effort. We sincerely appreciate all of you who helped. We are forever grateful.

As we celebrate this announcement, we also ask that you join us in remembering the service and sacrifice of the American men and women of Japanese heritage who served during World War II. Over 800 gave their lives. They served with distinction and honor alongside the 16 million fellow American servicemen and servicewomen of the war.

These Japanese American men and women patriotically served in the U.S. military during the war, despite our nation's mass incarceration of their families, friends, and communities in detention centers, or "internment" camps, on American soil. Many of them enlisted from behind the barbed wire of the camps, seeking to contribute to the war effort, and to prove their loyalty through service. They served amidst intense war hysteria and prejudice directed at them, and at the whole Japanese American community.

Their inspiring legacy helped Japanese Americans get back on their feet after the war, and helped lead to reparations in the Civil Liberties Act of 1988. Theirs is also a proud story shared by our nation's military, that honors them with buildings named after them, a National Go For Broke Day (April 5th), and a prominent place in the history of the Armed Forces. In 2011, they were also collectively awarded the Congressional Gold Medal.

The Stamp Our Story campaign, founded in 2005 by three Japanese American women from California who themselves endured confinement in the camps during the war, has long sought to tell the "Go For Broke" story through a postage stamp. Their names are **FUSA TAKAHASHI** (Granite Bay), **AIKO O. KING** (Camarillo), and **the late CHIZ OHIRA** (Gardena). Fusa and Chiz are both widows of Go For Broke veterans: *the late KAZUO TAKAHASHI* (Military Intelligence Service) and *the late TED OHIRA* (442nd Regimental Combat Team, H Company).

The campaign received overwhelming support from the public, which resulted in petitions nationwide, and even included French citizens and officials from towns liberated by the Go For Broke soldiers during the war. The campaign also received prominent support from local, state, and national lawmakers from both sides of the aisle.

Over the years, Stamp Our Story has submitted and supported various proposals that would tell the "Go For Broke" story, including one that featured the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism During World War II (photo on the right).

On November 17th, 2020, Stamp Our Story learned that the "Go For Broke" stamp will be issued in 2021. We are forever grateful to all of you who helped over the years, including lawmakers, past and present. We are proud to highlight that this campaign united Republicans and Democrats. Over the years many organizations have contributed to this effort. We would like to highlight the prominent support from the Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA), and the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) at the local and national levels.

After the stamp is issued next year, we will continue to work toward educating the public about the American story behind the stamp.



Thank you! ... And remember to buy the “Go For Broke” stamp when it is issued next year!

What does “Go For Broke” mean?

“Go For Broke” is the original motto of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. This phrase means “Go for your goal with all of your effort, and all you have.” (Photograph on the right of Go For Broke veterans at an event in California in 2007).

“Go For Broke Soldiers” now commonly refers to all of the American men and women of Japanese heritage who served in the U.S. military during World War II.



Our campaign used this motto as inspiration to keep going despite all of the hurdles we faced during our 15 plus year effort to get a U.S. commemorative postage stamp in their honor.

The Story Behind the Stamp Image

The soldier depicted on the “Go For Broke” stamp is **U.S. Army Private First Class SHIROKU “WHITEY” YAMAMOTO**, of Ninole, Hawaii. The image used by the Postal Service, pictured above, is from the Hawaii Nisei Project’s archives. He was a member of the 100th/442nd RCT, Antitank Company. The photograph was taken in Touet de l’Escarène in Southern France. He is standing in front of jeeps in the original image. Whitey often drove jeeps for his Antitank Company.



With his image on the “Go For Broke” stamp, Whitey becomes symbolic of all of the Japanese Americans who served in the U.S. military during World War II. He had a rough time in his youth, without a mother in his life, and his father passed away when he was in high school. In addition, he faced the prejudice and war hysteria by being treated as the “enemy” after the bombing of Pearl Harbor by Japan.

Despite these hurdles, he volunteered for the U.S. Army, and fought in the Rescue of the Lost Battalion, Operation Dragoon in the D-Day Invasion, and the Breaking of the Gothic Line. Following the end of the war, he went back to Hawaii and married his childhood sweetheart with whom he corresponded throughout the war. He would find a career working as an aircraft technician, and spend over 40 years volunteering at the Hawaii Army Museum until he passed a few years ago.

Whitey was humble, and he was dedicated to overcome whatever challenges he faced. He shared the following perspective to the Hawaii Nisei Project, which reflects the *Nisei’s* “Go For Broke” spirit:

We were brought up properly not to bring shame or disgrace to our family or to our neighbors, or even for the community.

We had no choice . . . shall I put it that way? On our upbringing, that when you start something, accomplish it, no matter how difficult it is.

The 100th and the 442nd never stepped back, always go forward and accomplish the mission, regardless

of how hard it was.

Whitey’s photo above is shown courtesy of the Hawaii Nisei Project. Special thanks goes to **SHARI TAMASHIRO**, who developed and maintains the Hawaii Nisei Project. She kindly provided information through the Project and through her social network platforms that were used for this entry.

The Artwork of the Stamp

The “Go For Broke” stamp image was created by USPS Art Director **ANTONIO ALCALÁ**. He used the intaglio method, which is a careful, handmade process of printmaking that has been around since the 1600s. This method essential involves scratching, or engraving, a design into a metal plate, then applying colored ink to the metal plate which is finally transferred to paper by mechanical press for the final image. It is said that the sharpness of the image created through this process is an essential part of its beauty. This is the process used historically in postage stamps from its earliest days. It is also traditionally used in banknote design. An example that many people have seen is the engraving done for images on a dollar bill.

Look closely at the “Go For Broke” stamp, and you can actually see the lines that were painstakingly made by the artist.

All postage stamp artwork comes from within the U.S. Postal Service art studios. Mr. Alcalá is one of four art directors there.

It is important to note that the Postal Service does not accept design proposals from the public; only subject proposals are allowed. Stamp Our Story has often been asked about this topic in the past.

When asked by Stamp Our Story for a remark on the stamp’s design, the U.S. Postal Service released this statement:

In order to make the design work at stamp size, the art director started with an image that was immediately recognizable as a soldier of Japanese descent. Engraving the image gave it a grounding in historical stamps and the red, white, and blue color scheme added a fresh contemporary and patriotic feel.

Mr. Alcalá is well-known in the design community and his work is in many galleries, including the National Postal Museum. A few of his many notable, iconic artworks for the Postal Service include the stamps for **WILT CHAMBERLAIN** (2014), **JANIS JOPLIN** (2014), **ELVIS PRESLEY** (2015), and the Solar Eclipse (2017)

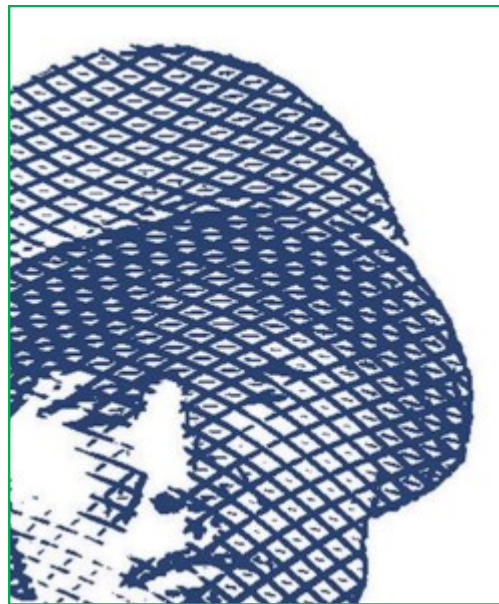
([PPP Editor’s Note](#): A “Meet the Artist” video in which Mr. Alcalá discusses his life as a stamp designer and an introduction to the art of intaglio are included in the article at the website.)

Why this American story?

Following the bombing of Pearl Harbor by Japan in 1941, many people doubted the Nisei’s loyalty just because their parents were from Japan. “Nisei” [pronounced *KNEE-say*] means ‘second-generation’ Americans born to parents who are from Japan.

The Nisei felt compelled to help our nation win the war and show their American loyalty in the face of the war hysteria and prejudice against them.

They were among the 120,000 Japanese Americans who were confined by federal officials into “relocation centers,” or “internment”



camps (like Manzanar, pictured above), when the government feared them just because they looked like the enemy. The suspicion was based on fear, not fact. Two-thirds were American citizens. No evidence of wrongdoing was presented by authorities to justify their detention.



They mainly served in segregated units, and their heroics and valor are now legendary. The **100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team** would become **the most decorated unit of the war for its size and length of service**. They earned over 18,000 medals, 9,000 Purple Hearts, and 21 Medals of Honor, in just two years of service. In the war with Japan, they are credited with shortening the war by two years, and founding the **US Armed Forces Defense Language Institute** (originally called the **Military Intelligence Service, or MIS**). Nisei women entered the **Women's Army Corps, Army Nurse Corps, and Cadet Nurse Corps**.

This American story is one of the shining examples of patriotism in our nation's history.

Why a stamp?

It is just a tiny rectangular piece of paper. People buy stamps less and less each year with the increased use of electronic communication. So what's the big deal?

A commemorative stamp, while small in its dimensions, is huge in its impact. It will be preserved and remembered as an iconic image which will last through the ages.

Stamps are still enjoyed and used widely. Most nations, including the US, issue stamps as a symbolic way to remember people, places, events, and other things that are important to the shared history and culture of its people. On a functional level, most people must buy at least some stamps for use on bills, etc. Many people enjoy selecting special stamps to use for important letters, cards, invitations, and packages.

Some stamps become personal keepsakes, too. Stamp collecting is still one of the most popular hobbies in the world. Stamps can even be beautiful, miniature works of art.

The US Postal Service accepts stamp subject ideas but not any designs or images. The Postal Service reserves the right to decide on the final stamp image.

Join us in remembering these Americans through the "Go For Broke" stamp for what they did in service to our nation with utmost valor, in the face of so much adversity abroad and at home.

Theirs is a truly inspiring story for America, and the world, that we think people will want to remember a hundred years from now!

Thank you!



They Deserve A Stamp is part of the Stamp Our Story campaign. *They Deserve A Stamp* was formed in recent years as a sister campaign working toward the shared goal of the stamp. To view their website, go to TheyDeserveAStamp.org. A special thanks goes out to **JEFF MACINTYRE** and *They Deserve A Stamp* for all of their help!

Stamp Our Story is the 2016 relaunch of *The Nisei World War II Stamp Campaign*, which is the original name of the stamp effort. Stamp Our Story is also called the "founders' campaign" because it is the original effort begun in 2005.

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