

Box 49
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April 21, 1943

Dear Mr. Ishimaru:

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of April 18, in which you ask a number of questions with reference to the possibility of your being utilized in the capacity of photographer.

In reply to your letter you are informed that to my knowledge there is no distinctive photographic mission in connection with the units of the combat team. These units, as you know, consist of the 442nd Infantry, 522 Field Artillery and 232nd Engineer Combat Company. It is possible that the public relations officer of the combat team will require a photographer, but your detail to this mission will be one of internal administration rather than official table of organization assignment. Also, it is possible that the Engineer Company may have some official photographing equipment and photographing work to do.

There is at present no possibility of your being assigned to photographic missions in the Army Air Corps. The present plan of utilizing loyal Nisei extends only to development of the combat team. Further extension of the use of loyal Japanese American citizens is currently under study in the War Department. The developments of this extension will naturally depend upon the success in the Japanese American combat team idea and other factors.

It is my feeling that should you let your commanding officer know of your photographic ability you will stand an excellent opportunity of being given an assignment of regimental or combat team photographer.

May I offer my congratulations on your volunteering for the armed service.

Sincerely,

(SIGNED)

WILLIAM P. SCOBRY
Colonel, General Staff
Executive

Mr. Stone S. Ishimaru
Block 38-13-A
Poston, Arizona

025V;VPS;MAV

442.18 TA. Volunteer
Ishimaru, Stone S.
4-21-43
4-12-43

24 Apr 43
Miss Lynch (MIS) advises
that this man failed to
pass his physical test
for induction - WPS.



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Item 2
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Block 39-12-A
Poston, Arizona
April 8 1943

Colonel Wm. P. Scobey
Army General Staff
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am a volunteer from the Poston War Relocation Project and for the last eight months I have worked as Deputy Project Photographer under the directions of Morris E. James, Reports Officer. Since Photography is my hobby and profession I would like to know the possibilities of becoming an Army Photographer, if qualified, in this All-Nisei Combat Unit.

Through Mr. James, I had the honor of meeting Lt. John H. Bolton and Staff who acting in behalf of the War Department was our recruiting officer at our center. In Lt. Bolton's speech to the public of Poston, he stated, "The All-Nisei Combat Team consists of Engineers, Medical, Infantry, Artillery, and Signal Corp, which are open to the Niseis. I inquired whether the Photography department would be included under the heading of Signal Corp, in this new unit. Lt. Bolton stated, "If qualified I would be eligible."

Your confirmation on this subject; Will photography be a part of the new combat team? Are the Niseis permitted to become photographers in this new team or any other unit, if qualified. What are the possibilities of a Nisei to become Army Air Corp, Photographer?

Your verification on this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Respectfully yours

Stone S. Ishimeru

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