

RG 107-183
 Box 53
 Folder 6
 Item 36
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 ASW 342 18 JA Volunteers
 Kanazawa, Joe
 ASW 353.8 JA MORALE (HAWAII)

11 October 1943

Dear Kanazawa:

I was glad to have your letter of October 7, with the attached papers pertaining to Lewis Suzuki. I do not know what can be done in Suzuki's case, but I will look into it. The fact is, that his background of long residence in Japan at a formative age and his association with the Japanese Embassy in Washington certainly does constitute a handicap for his entry into the service. By this I do not mean that a Kibei is totally unacceptable for military service, but I believe you know as well as I do the general characteristics and attitude of the Kibei. Looking at the matter from a realistic view-point, it seems to me that Suzuki must by some means show conclusively that his loyalty and attitude is wholly with the United States and there is no sympathy of any kind for Japan. Certainly, if this can be established, his extensive knowledge of the Japanese language would be of great value.

I was interested in learning that you had been transferred to the Cannon Company. I know that you will find this type of organization to be a very interesting one and I trust that you will ultimately profit by your transfer.

I was glad to learn of the boost in morale given to the 442nd C.T. when they learned that the 100th Battalion had entered the combat area in Italy. We are hoping that it makes a great record for itself and now are awaiting information of its exploits.

You said nothing in your letter with reference to how the 442nd executed the guarding of the German prisoners, nor as to what effect this detail had upon the men. I would be interested in knowing how they felt about it. The reports we have all indicate they did the job very well.

You mention a number of matters about officer candidate school and transfer of personnel from Service Commands to the 442nd Infantry. These are under study and we are hoping that some action will be taken in effecting satisfactory solutions of these problems.

It is entirely possible that Mr. McCloy and I hope myself will be able to come down to Camp Shelby sometime in the near future.

Sincerely,

(SIGNED)

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

Private Joe Kanazawa, ASN 33741605
Cannon Company
443rd Infantry
Camp Shelby, Mississippi

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