

Box 48  
Folder 3  
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P. 18 JA. -- Performance of Duty  
Classif. No. ASW 342.18 - Comments  
Whittlesey, R. A.

April 10, 1943

Dear Mr. Whittlesey:

Your letter of March 3 to the Secretary of War has been referred to this office for acknowledgment and reply.

The establishment by the War Department of the combat team for loyal Japanese American volunteers was determined upon after careful consideration of all aspects. The War Department feels that it is not impossible to distinguish between loyal and disloyal Japanese. Furthermore, the War Department sees no need for placing more drastic restrictions on loyal American citizens of Japanese ancestry than on any other category of citizens. It seems only fair to give these people a chance to prove their loyalty. In this connection, I am enclosing a recent press release announcing the award of the Legion of Merit to three soldiers of Japanese ancestry who have already rendered outstanding service to this country.

Sincerely,

(SIGNED)

JOHN K. HALL  
Captain, F.A.  
Assistant Executive

Mr. R. A. Whittlesey  
340 Hayes Street  
San Francisco, California

Enc.  
Press release 4-8-43.

OASW:JMH:MGB