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OFFICE OF THE CHAPLAINS
442nd COMBAT TEAM
Camp Shelby, Miss.



ASW 342.18 J. A. Volunteers
Nakayama, Lloyd

Lt Col Harrison A. Gerhardt,
General Staff Corps,
Executive to Ass't Secretary of War,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Colonel Gerhardt:

The patience and interest you showed in our 442nd problems are fully appreciated by all of us. We are happy to have a progressive and sympathetic officer in such a capacity as you serve. It will make many of us feel stronger inwardly to know that you will see that justice and righteousness triumph.

I want to acknowledge your letter of the 24th of March with thanks. We have taken your suggestion as to screening and will have a fairly strong team assembled for the day of commitment.

As to the case of Sgt Lloyd Nakayama, ASN 19078278, 232nd Engineers Company, investigation has been completed and is held up for the final approval of Col. Pence who returns on the 29th of March. Sgt Nakayama has personally declared himself as desiring repatriation together with his parents.

According to the most reliable sources, the Sergeant is a bit afraid to enter combat. He has been influenced by his parents who are quite bitter. He has actually said to his CO that he saw no opportunity for him in the United States after the war, that he was better off taking his chances in Japan.

This is the sort of thing that we despise among ourselves. The Kibeis in Fort McClellan have done the same. We have no answer except we shall "Go For Broke" for our United States.

This is the very reason why I asked you about the status of the Pacific Coast evacuation order. Somehow the little hearts faint faster when hung in mid-air. And in the real crisis, as in combat duty, we find those that are "yellow" glow bright and noisy, to save their faces. We have our lot.

The spirit of the majority, or 90%, I should say, are eager and anxious to go across. Those that remain are not saying much, but certainly taking it as well as possible. Our officers are quite earnest and I am thankful for their enthusiasm to go with our Japanese Americans. Many are proud to see them through to victory.

Very sincerely yours,
Masao Yamada
MASAO YAMADA,
Chaplain

x- Yamada
014.33 Repatriation of Japs
Nakayama (parents of Lloyd)
342.18 J. A. - Infantry - 442nd Combat Team
27 Mar 44

