

Prepared:  
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6 November 1945

16 November 1945

Mr. Earl H. Finch  
Nattiesburg, Mississippi

Dear Mr. Finch:

I have your letter of October 23d to Colonel Harrison A. Gerhardt with reference to prolonged waiting period of Japanese-American soldiers for shipment to Hawaii.

We deeply regret that there was a time when there was a backlog of such personnel at West Coast points awaiting shipment to Hawaii. This was due for some time to the priority given to shipment of personnel necessary to redeployment. As soon as transportation became available, Japanese-American soldiers being returned to Hawaii for discharge were given first priority, until the priority system was discontinued on 1 November 1945. However, some were delayed in shipment due to administrative procedures necessary to their proper handling.

An investigation of the situation at present has been made and reports indicate that this backlog no longer exists. At the time of the investigation there were only sixteen men at Camp Beale, California, awaiting call to the Port of Embarkation for shipment.

With reference to your request that you be informed of the arrival date of the 443d Combat Team, this unit has not been scheduled to depart from the overseas theater and I can give you no information as to a possible arrival. When the unit returns from the theater, advance notices of its arrival will undoubtedly appear in the press, and I suggest that that may prove the best method of keeping in touch with the situation.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

CHARLES V. MCCARTHY  
Colonel, General Staff Corps  
Executive to Asst. Secretary of War

11/16/45  
Despatched

R/m  
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(Demobilization)

X-McCarthy

16 Nov 45