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342.18 442nd C.T. General

6 December 1943

Dear Sergeant Mizuno:

Your letter of 23 November has been received. I delayed answering in the hope that Mr. McCloy, who has been temporarily absent from Washington, would have returned in time to write a letter for your Christmas album. I have now learned that he will not be back for two or three weeks. Consequently I am able only to enclose two photographs autographed prior to his departure which you may wish to use.

While Mr. McCloy has been very much interested in the 442nd Combat Team since its start I do not think that it would be accurate to describe him as its "father". The Secretary of War and the War Department General Staff were equally instrumental in its formation. With regard to its origin, I can do no more than enclose a copy of the Secretary of War's press release of 28 January 1943.

I accompanied Mr. McCloy on his recent visit to Camp Shelby during which he reviewed and inspected the 442nd. He was tremendously pleased and impressed by its performance, as was I.

With best wishes for the success of your publication,

Sincerely,

JOHN M. HALL

JOHN M. HALL
Captain, T.A.
Assistant Executive

S/Sgt. Larry Mizuno
Office of the Chaplain
442nd Combat Team
Camp Shelby, Mississippi

Enc.

OASW:JMH:MGB

Mizuno, Sgt. Larry
Hall, Capt. J.H.

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OFFICE OF THE CHAPLAIN
442nd. Combat Team
Camp Shelby, Miss.

NOV 23 1943
November 23, 1943

Capt. John M. Hall
Ass't. Executive Officer
Office of the Sec. of War
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

The letter that has come from Mr. John J. McCloy, Ass't. Secretary of War, to our 442nd. Combat Team thrilled us. We read it on our company bulletin boards, reproduced for our benefit. We are certainly grateful for the full support given by Mr. McCloy and your office.

The enlisted men of the Combat Team were moved lately to issue a Christmas album, similar to the college annual. It has been a deep desire of all of us to have the pictures of the combat team bound in book form. Our commander, Col. Pence, has given us the privilege to undertake the task and see it through.

For our inspiration, we ask you to speak to Mr. McCloy on our behalf, to write us a brief letter for the publication accompanied by an autographed personal photograph. (If possible the size of photo to be about 5" x 7"). We would also appreciate very much if you could write us of the historical formation of our team. We would like to claim Mr. McCloy as "our father".

We appreciate much all that you and your office are doing for us. We hope that this sudden request be granted as soon as possible. We shall always remember to live up to the challenge ahead. Aloha.

Very sincerely yours,

Larry Mizuno

Larry Mizuno, S/Sgt.
Editor