

## **COLLINS HALL**



**DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF  
BRIGADIER GENERAL JAMES LAWTON COLLINS, JR.  
November 5<sup>th</sup> 1917 – May 6<sup>th</sup> 2002**

Brigadier General James Lawton Collins, Jr., was a pivotal Commandant of the Army Language School, from 1959-1962, then became the first Director of the Defense Language Institute when military foreign language education was consolidated in 1963.

General Collins began his military career graduating from West Point in 1939, then commanded the 957<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Battalion in Europe during World War II, leading his men from Normandy to the link up with Russian forces at the Elbe River in 1945. His unit fought with distinction with the legendary 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division in France and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Division during the Battle of the Bulge.

General Collins was an accomplished linguist, proficient in French, Italian, German, Spanish, and learned some Russian during his intelligence assignments. He was personally chosen by General Maxwell Taylor to take control of the Army Language School with the directive to improve foreign language education. General Collins succeeded by creating the Defense Language Institute from all of the services' language programs and developing the first comprehensive Defense Foreign Language Program. He instilled confidence in the faculty by trusting their education abilities, and led the Defense Language Institute to unparalleled status as the world's leading foreign language institution.

General Collins later served in Korea as Assistant Commander of I Corps Group Artillery, in Vietnam as a special assistant to General Westmoreland, in Germany as Commander of V Corps Artillery, and lastly as Chief of the Center of Military History from 1970 to 1982. General Collins earned the Distinguished Service Medal with second oak leaf cluster, Silver Star, Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster, Bronze Star with valor, the Purple Heart, and the French Croix de Guerre with palm.



ATFL-CMT

30 November 1979

Brigadier General James L. Collins, Jr.  
Chief of Military History  
U.S. Army Center of Military History  
Forrestal Building  
Washington, D. C. 20314

Dear General Collins:

As I related to you yesterday during our telephone conversation, DLIFLC has been researching for more than a year possible nominations for a building memorialization program. We have decided upon three names but are finding it virtually impossible to verify the military records of the following individuals whom we would like to honor:

Sergeant George Ichiro Nakamura                      17-145-544  
U.S. Army 6th Infantry Division  
169th Language Detachment  
Entered service - 28 Nov 1942  
Killed in action - 29 Jun 1945 at Luzon

Technician Third Class Frank Tadakazu Hachiya    19-005-979  
U.S. Army 7th Infantry Division  
Entered Service - 7 Jan 1942  
Killed in action - 3 Jan 1945 somewhere in  
the Philippines

Technical Sergeant Yukitaka "Terry" Mizutari    30-101-723  
Pacific Theatre, Australia then New Guinea  
Entered service - 12 Nov 1941  
Killed in action - 23 Jun 1944 at Maffin, New Guinea



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30 November 1979

Brigadier General James L. Collins, Jr.

Each of these individuals was a Japanese American who volunteered to serve as a translator/interpreter for the U.S. Army during World War II and was subsequently killed in action.

In addition to the information contained in Inclosures 1, 2 and 3, we have obtained the following information from the respective families of these men:

- In the case of Nakamura, we now anticipate receiving the official Silver Star citation from the Awards Branch of the Military Records Center in St. Louis. This should suffice when received.
- In the case of Hachiya, we have an official Silver Star citation but cannot verify or obtain a copy of his Distinguished Service Cross.
- In the case of Mizutari, we only have two newspaper articles relating his actions which led to receiving a Silver Star and copies of Army letters mentioning the award and expressing condolences.

It will be helpful for you to know that DLIFLC has contacted the National Personnel Records Center, GSA Military Personnel Records, St. Louis, in an effort to obtain individual service records, but were sent only casualty reports and an explanation involving the fire of 1973. Subsequently, we have contacted the U.S. Army Center of Military History, the Army Archives, the Memorialization Affairs Division of the Army, and the Awards Branch at MILPERCEN all of which provided explanations ranging from not having any information to not being able to retrieve such information.

Since it is our intention to coordinate the memorialization of our Asian Language Buildings with Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week in May of 1980, your help is very much needed in order for this to happen a short six months from now.



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30 November 1979

Brigadier General James L. Collins, Jr.

If further details are needed, please contact me or my Public Affairs Officer, Lieutenant Louisa Adams, USN, who has been coordinating these matters, autovon 929-8184/8104.

Sincerely,

3 Incl  
as

THOMAS G. FOSTER, III  
Colonel, USA  
Commandant