GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

A.P.O. 500,
July 15, 1945.

Mr. George K. Nakamura,
1401 East State,
Rockford, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Nakamura:

My deepest sympathy goes to you in the death of your son, Sergeant George I. Nakamura.

His service to his country was characterized by his devotion to his duty, and in his death we have lost a gallant comrade-in-arms.

Very faithfully,

Douglas MacArthur

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HEADQUARTERS 6TH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO 6

18 July 1945

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 139

ORIGINAL ORDER -

SECTION I - AWARD OF SILVER STAR - POSTHUMOUSLY
SECTION II - AWARD OF SILVER STAR
SECTION III - AWARDS OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL

Section I - Award of Silver Star - Posthumously

By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (Bull 43 WD 1918) a Silver Star for gallantry in action at the place and date indicated is awarded, posthumously, by the Commanding General, 6th Infantry Division, APO 6, to the following named enlisted man:

Sergeant GEORGE I. NAKAMURA, 17145544, Infantry, United States Army. Near Payawan, Luzon, Philippine Islands on 29 June 1945, a small group of enemy Japanese had been isolated in a pillbox densely covered by bamboo thickets. Sergeant NAKAMURA volunteered to go forward to a point from which he could call to the enemy in an attempt to induce them to surrender. Using a patrol as protection, he proceeded along the road to within seventy-five yards of the enemy position. From there he called to the enemy soldiers but received no response. Although he knew that he could be observed by the enemy, believing that they had not heard his calls, he crawled to within twenty-five yards of the emplacement, where he arose, exposing himself to view, and again called to the enemy encouraging them to surrender. The enemy's reply was a single shot which fatally wounded Sergeant NAKAMURA. By his fearless advance and voluntary performance of such hazardous duty, Sergeant NAKAMURA demonstrated the courage and loyalty exemplary of the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Next of kin: Mr. George K. Nakamura, Father, 1401 E. State, Rockford, Illinois.

Section II - Award of Silver Star

By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (Bull 43 WD 1918) a Silver Star for gallantry in action at the place and date indicated is awarded by the Commanding General, 6th Infantry Division, APO 6, to the following named enlisted man:

Private First Class CHESTER W. AUERNHAMMER, 36575920, Infantry, United States Army. On 13 June 1945 in the Cagayan Valley, Luzon, Philippine Islands a rifleman of an infantry company to which Private AUERNHAMMER'S 81mm mortar section was attached lost his footing while fording a wide swift river during an attack on enemy positions. He was carried under the raging water with his full pack. At the man's first cry for help, Private AUERNHAMMER, an ammunition bearer, unhesitatingly dropped his load of ammunition and, fully clothed, dove into the water in order to search for the soldier. Private AUERNHAMMER was carried under water for fifty feet and when he came to the surface he was within a short distance of the drowning man. While under heavy enemy fire, Private AUERNHAMMER, with the assistance of three other men who had arrived at the place of rescue, carried the unconscious man to safety, applied artifical respiration and revived him. After

RESTRICTED

August 2, 1945.

My dear Mr. Nakamura:

The President has requested me to inform you that the Purple Heart has been awarded posthumously to your son, Sergeant George I. Nakamura, Detached Enlisted Men's List, who sacrificed his life in defense of his country.

The medal, which you will receive shortly, is of slight intrinsic value, but rich with the tradition for which Americans are so gallantly giving their lives. The Father of our country, whose profile and coat of arms adorn the medal, speaks from it across the centuries to the men who fight today for the proud freedom he founded.

Nothing the War Department can do or say will in any sense repair the loss of your loved one. He has gone, however, in honor and the goodly company of patriots. Let me, in communicating to you the country's deep sympathy, also express to you its gratitude for his valor and devotion.

Please believe me,

Sincerely yours,

Henry L. Stimson

Mr. George K. Nakamura,
1401 East State Street,
Rockford, Illinois.

NOMINATION FOR MEMORIALIZATION
OF
PRESIDIO OF MONTEREY BUILDING 619
IN HONOR OF
SERGEANT GEORGE ICHIRO NAKAMURA
5/22/23 to 6/29/45

Sergeant Nakamura was born 22 May 1923 in Santa Cruz, California. He entered the Army on 28 November 1942. Sergeant Nakamura received intelligence training at the Military Intelligence Service Language School, Savage, Minnesota, and was sent to New Guinea in March 1944 as an interpreter and translator with the Sixth Infantry Division. He was transfered to the Philippines in February 1945. His decorations include the Silver Star.

The citation reads as follows: "For gallantry in action at **** on 29 June 1945. A small group of enemy Japanese had been isolated in a pillbox densely covered by bamboo thickets. Sergeant Nakamura volunteered to go forward to a point from which he could call to the enemy in an attempt to induce them to surrender. Using a patrol as protection, he proceeded along the road to within seventy-five yards of the enemy position. From there he called to the enemy soldiers but received no response. Although he knew that he could be observed by the enemy, believing that they had not heard his calls, he crawled to within twenty-five yards of the emplacement, where he arose, exposing himself to view, and again called to the enemy encouraging them to surrender. The enemy's reply was a single shot which fatally wounded Sergeant Nakamura. By his fearless advance and voluntary performance of such hazardous duty, Sergeant Nakamura demonstrated the courage and loyalty exemplary of the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States."

Incl 1

April 15, 1980

Lt. Louisa D. Adams, USN
Defense Language Institute
Foreign Language Center
Presidio of Monterey
Monterey, California 93940

Dear Lt. Adams:

I have received word that a building at the Presidio is to be dedicated in the memory of certain honored members of our armed forces who gave their lives in the service of our country during World War II.

Two of the members being honored, Sgt. George I. Nakamura, and Sgt. Terry Mizutari, were members of the 169th Language Detachment, 6th Infantry Division, which I had the privilege of leading in the Pacific Theatre of Operations.

The above two were outstanding members of the unit. Their devotion to their country, their dedication to duty, their contributions to our effort, and their close comradeship with other members of the unit was reflected in their everyday actions. The loss of Sgt. Nakamura in the Philippines and Sgt. Mizutari in New Guinea was not only a great loss to our unit and the armed forces, but a loss to mankind because of the high caliber of integrity, honor and devotion which they exemplified.

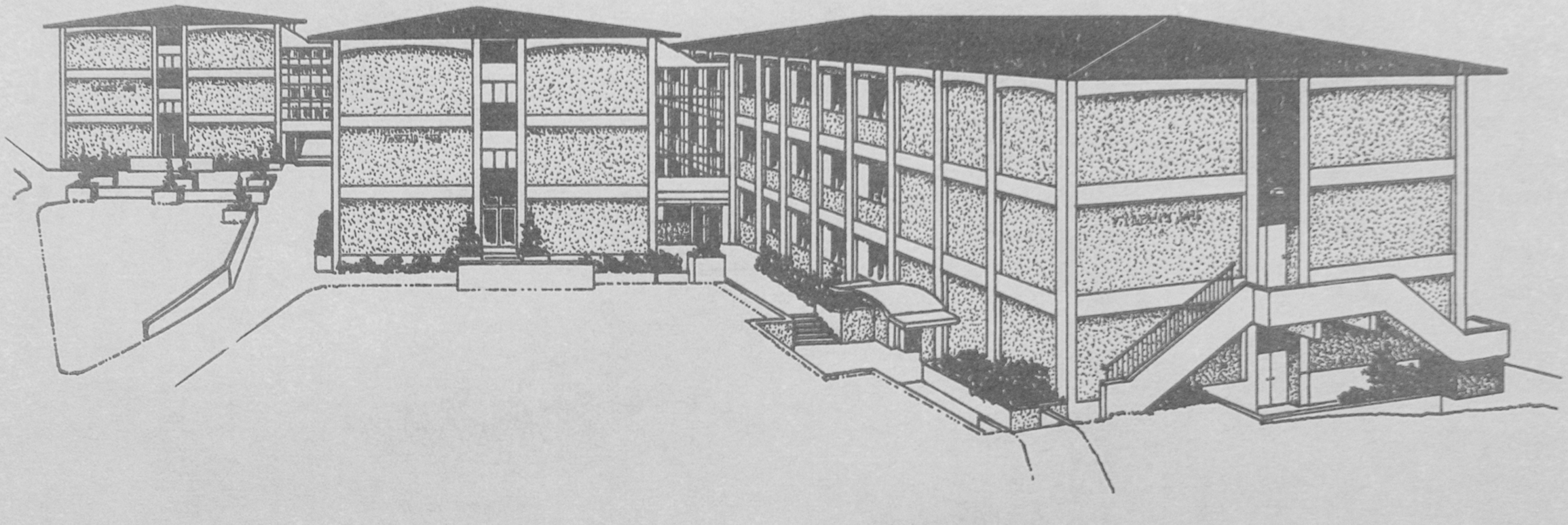
Though many years have passed, the memory of these two fine men remains vivid, and a corner of my heart will always retain a tribute to these fine men.

Please accept my personal gratitude for bestowing such richly deserved honors to Sgt. Nakamura and Sgt. Mizutari. My humble thanks for allowing me to convey my thoughts to you.

Sincerely,

George T. Hayashida

George T. Hayashida
13825 Trinidad Dr.
Victorville, Ca. 92392



Defense Language Institute,
Foreign Language Center
Presidio of Monterey

May 9, 1980

Commandant's Message

Thirty-five years ago three young men gave their lives for their country under circumstances that should give us cause to reflect on the meaning of patriotism.

These three young men, graduates of the Military Intelligence Service Language School at Camp Savage, served as interpreters, translators and interrogators in the Pacific. Despite the fact that members of their families had been separated from their homes and property and relocated to remote camps with primitive facilities, they were steadfast in their commitment to their country and served willingly, effectively and loyally. Finally they gave all that one has to give—their lives.

This day is dedicated to the memory of these men. It is an important occasion not only to the families for the recognition it bestows on each individual but also to this Institute for the proud heritage it gives us. Finally it is important to all Americans who treasure the justice and freedom this nation provides.

Col. Thomas G. Foster, III

Presentation of the Colors
Joint Service Color Guard

National Anthem
7th Infantry Division Band

Invocation: Rev. Nicholas Iyoya,
El Estero Presbyterian Church

Commandant's Address
Col. Thomas G. Foster, III

Guest Speaker: Hon. Dr. Stephen R. Aiello
Special Assistant to the President for Ethnic Affairs

Reading of the Messages
Mr. Shigeya Kihara

California State Legislative Resolution
Assemblyman Paul Bannai

Hawaii State Legislative Resolution
Dick Ogura

Honor Guard Posted
Monterey Peninsula Nisei Memorial Post 1629

Unveiling of the Memorial

Presentation of Wreaths

Benediction: Rev. Chiken Takeda,
Monterey Peninsula Buddhist Temple

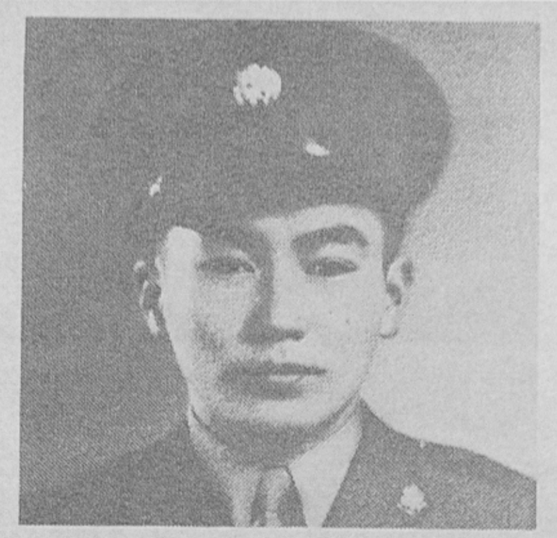
Rifle Salute
U.S. Marine Corps Detachment

Taps
7th Infantry Division Band

Recovery of the Colors
Joint Service Color Guard

Our special thanks to Mr. Shigeya Kihara whose help on this project has been invaluable. He has given unselfishly of his time for more than a year to make this event a reality.

Nakamura Hall



Nakamura Hall is named in honor of Sergeant George Nakamura who was born in Santa Cruz, Calif. Sgt. Nakamura received his intelligence training at Camp Savage, Minn. After graduation, he served as translator and interpreter with the 6th Infantry Division Headquarters in New Guinea.

Sgt. Nakamura was killed in action near Payawan, Luzon in the Philippine Islands on June 29, 1945. He was trying to induce a group of enemy soldiers to surrender when he was fatally wounded. "By his fearless advance and voluntary performance of such hazardous duty, Sergeant Nakamura demonstrated the courage and loyalty exemplary of the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States." For his heroic actions, Sgt. Nakamura was posthumously awarded the Silver Star.



Hachiya Hall

Hachiya Hall is named in honor of Technician Third Class Frank Hachiya who was born in Hood River, Oregon. After graduating from the Military Intelligence Service Language School at Camp Savage, Minn., he served as a regimental interpreter with the 7th and 32nd Infantry Divisions.

TSgt. Hachiya's service awards include the Silver Star, Bronze Star and the Combat Infantryman's Badge.

At the time of his death his unit was assigned to Leyte in the Philippine Islands. TSgt. Hachiya and a two-man patrol were in pursuit of three enemy soldiers when they encountered a large enemy patrol and were fired on. Hachiya was fatally wounded. "After being hit and while lying helpless on the ground, he fired a complete magazine from his pistol at the enemy, driving them up the ravine. Hachiya's actions were an inspiration to the entire command." Before he died, Hachiya was able to give vital information that helped save many lives.

The Silver Star was awarded him after his death on Jan. 3, 1945.

Mizutari Hall



Mizutari Hall is named in honor of Technical Sergeant Yukitaka Mizutari who was born in Honolulu, Hawaii. At the time of the attack on Pearl Harbor, Sgt. Mizutari was stationed at Schofiels Barracks where some of the heaviest bombing took place. He received his language training at Camp Savage, Minn. and after graduation served in the Pacific war zone.

TSgt. Mizutari was posthumously awarded the Silver Star, "For gallantry in action at Maffin Bay, New Guinea on June 23, 1944." While his section was under enemy attack, Sgt. Mizutari "rushed to a more strategic but vulnerable position in order to defend the men serving under him, thereby sacrificing his life." As a result of his unselfish action, the men in his section were warned of their danger and no others were injured during the attack.

Mizutari

Yukitaka Mizutari was part of a large and close knit family. Born and reared in Hawaii, he was one of 10 children. His parents, Yasuyuki and Sueme, were school teachers. His father also taught Kendo, a Japanese fencing art. According to two of Yukitaka's sisters, Fusako Nishikawa and Masako Yoshioka, Yukitaka had excelled in the sport and won several tournaments.

Yukitaka was gifted in many areas. He was an excellent student and was also musically and artistically inclined. Playing the ukulele and guitar and sketching were only some of the pastimes he enjoyed. One of his summers was spent helping his father with Kimono painting and he frequently spent time sketching scenes of Hawaii.

Yukitaka is remembered by his family with love and admiration. In one of her letters, Mrs. Yoshioka had some rather poignant remembrances of her brother.

"Everybody liked him, he was such a happy guy. He made people smile and laugh whenever he was around.

"The last speech he made, which was in November, 1941, when the elders of the community and friends gathered to honor him upon his induction into the Army, he said in ringing tones, in Japanese, 'The waves of the Pacific ocean rise high, and I look forward to the challenge before me...'

"The next day, with banners flying and relatives and friends waving goodbye, he sailed away with the tide...the band was playing 'Aloha Oe' and 'Auld Lang Syne,' streamers from the ship to shore were wafting on the breeze; he left, never to return home again.

"He had gone to meet his challenge and was stopped by a sniper's bullet three years later in New Guinea on June 23, 1944. He was 24 years old."

Nakamura

Sergeant George Nakamura was a native Californian, born and reared in Santa Cruz. George was a pre-med student when the war entered the Pacific.

Family life for Japanese-Americans was suddenly and drastically disrupted. Whole families were placed in relocation centers after the bombing of Pearl Harbor. Members of George's family were sent to Tule Lake Project in Newell, Calif.

After graduating from Camp Savage, he was sent to the Pacific where he served as translator and interpreter. In one of his letters to his sister, George shared one of his experiences. The letter was written one month before his death.

"I went to Manila on a pass a few weeks ago and saw the town. It's all wrecked now by the war but I can see how it might have been in peacetime. Most of the buildings have been ruined either by artillery shells or bombs. There is so much waste connected with a war."

Mrs. Kunishige appropriately summerized her brother's life in these words: "He was reared to respect family, school and country, and George proved his love, his belief in and dedication for America by sacrificing that which can be given by a citizen or soldier but once...his life.

Dora Kunishige, one of George's younger sisters, remembers the trauma and her brother's reaction in a letter she wrote. "Family life for those of Japanese ancestry was put to a severe test as we were ordered to leave our beloved Pacific coast. Family life was not all that was placed under stress. Our loyalty to the country of our birth was put to the ultimate test. George accepted the challenge and volunteered for the U.S. Army."

"I would like to believe that George gave his life for his country, which he loved, while he made the sacrifice in executing a principle he held most dear. He gave his life in an effort to save other lives: Lives of human beings who may not have heard his command to surrender, and he wanted to give them the best possible chance to survive. More than brave, he was human."

Hachiya

Technician Third Class Frank Hachiya was born in Hood River, Oregon where he attended public school. From there he went to the University of Oregon but his education was stopped short with the outbreak of war. He volunteered for duty with the U.S. Army Jan. 7, 1942 and was sent to Camp Savage for language training in November of that year.

Frank served in the Pacific from September 1943 to January 1945 when he died. In 1945, anti-Japanese sentiment still ran high on the Pacific coast. After Frank's death, the American Legion in Hood River had Nisei names removed from the town's Roll of Honor.

Because of this action, Frank's father was hesitant to have his body returned to Hood River for burial. According to a letter from Monroe M. Sweetland, a friend and fellow serviceman of Frank's, Mr. Hachiya didn't want to "stir up violent reactions in the valley."

Having a personal interest in the situation, Mr. Sweetland decided to persue the matter. He went to Hood River and spoke to several people in a position to help. "They all told me that most people in Hood River, even in the war years, had been outraged at the Legion action, but for the most part had remained silent. Now the wartime record of the Nisei had completely discredited the racist extremists." Mr. Sweetland was told that the people of Hood River wanted to have Frank's body returned to his home town.

Arrangements were approved and the funeral service was held in the Hood River Methodist Church with full military honors. Every pew was filled and fellow Oregonians stood massed outside the church during the service.

Mr. Sweetland observed in the close of his letter, "Oregon, like other west coast states, behaved badly during and after the hysteria of the relocation years. But by 1946 the racistic phobia...had melted into the chastened, respectful and even supportive sentiment of the post-war era. Frank's memorial served as a bittersweet catalyst of that feeling in the northwest."

Acknowledgements

Mizutari Family
Nakamura Family
Hachiya Family
Mr. Akira Oshida
Mr. Shigeya Kihara
Monroe Sweetland
Al Ota
l4th Engineer Battalion
Granite Construction Company
Satsuma Bonsai Club of Monterey, Watsonville and Salinas
Ohara Ikebana Instructor's Association, Monterey, Mrs. Bea Tanimoto

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS
7th INFANTRY DIVISION AND FORT ORD
FORT ORD, CALIFORNIA 93941

29 APR 1980

AFZW-CG

SUBJECT: Building Memorializations

SEE DISTRIBUTION

1. Building 619, the Presidio of Monterey is dedicated to the memory of Sergeant George Ichiro Nakamura, 1923-1945, who died as a result of wounds received in action 29 June 1945 in the Philippine Islands. The Silver Star was awarded posthumously to Sergeant Nakamura for his actions that day. Sergeant Nakamura graduated from the Military Intelligence Service Language School, in Minnesota, in 1944.

2. Building 621, the Presidio of Monterey is dedicated to the memory of Technician Third Class Frank Tadakazu Hachiya, 1920-1944, who died as result of wounds received in action 30 December 1944 in the Philippine Islands. The Silver Star was awarded posthumously to Technician Third Class Hachiya for his actions that day. Technician Third Class Hachiya graduated from the Military Intelligence Service Language School, in Minnesota, in 1943.

3. Building 623, the Presidio of Monterey is dedicated to the memory of Technical Sergeant Yukitaka "Terry" Mizutari, 1920-1944, who died as a result of wounds received in action 23 June 1944 in New Guinea. The Silver Star was awarded posthumously to Technical Sergeant Mizutari for his actions that day. Technical Sergeant Mizutari graduated from the Military Intelligence Service Language School, in Minnesota, in 1943.

Scott B. Smith

SCOTT B. SMITH
Brigadier General, USA
Acting Commander

DISTRIBUTION

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DEFENSE LANGUAGE INSTITUTE
FOREIGN LANGUAGE CENTER
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDANT
PRESIDIO OF MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA 93940

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF: ATFL-TP-O

5 May 1980

SUBJECT: Asian Group Building Memorialization

SEE DISTRIBUTION

1. At 1300, 9 May 1980, in a ceremony to be held in front of Building 621, the Asian Group Buildings will be memorialized as a tribute to Sergeant George Ichiro Nakamura, Technician Third Class Frank Tadakazu Hachiya, and Technical Sergeant Yukitaka "Terry" Mizutari. These three American soldiers, graduates of the Military Intelligence Service Language School, were killed in action during World War II and were posthumously awarded the Silver Star for their heroism.

2. I view this dedication as one of the most significant events which will take place at the Defense Language Institute, Foreign Language Center, during my tenure as Commandant and it is my earnest desire that each of you attend the ceremony if your duty obligations permit.

3. To allow maximum attendance the class schedule for the afternoon of 9 May 1980 is changed as follows: (a) Asian Group language classes are dismissed for the day at 1100; and (b) for all other language classes fourth period is cancelled, fifth period will begin at 1410, and sixth period will terminate at 1600.

4. Families and friends of the three men to be honored are coming to DLIFLC from all over the country and the world. I enjoin each and every one of you to do whatever you can to assure their visit is a pleasant one. However insignificant your effort may seem to you, I assure you it will be appreciated by them and by me.

THOMAS G. FOSTER, III
Colonel, USA
Commandant

DISTRIBUTION:
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GLOBE

Vol. 2, No. 8 Presidio of Monterey, CA May 9, 1980



Three unidentified Nisei carry the U.S. flag during a ceremony held at Camp Savage, Minn. Nisei played a vital roll in World War II. Their ability to translate, interrogate and interpret not only helped their country win the war but proved the value of foreign language training.

Three WWII Nisei graduates honored at special ceremony

At 1 p.m. today, the Defense Language Institute, Foreign Language Center will host a building memorialization. The purpose of the event is to publicly celebrate the naming of three buildings that were constructed several years ago.

The three buildings of the Asian Complex will be named after Yukitaka Terry Mizutari, Frank Tadakazu Hachiya and George I. Nakamura who were killed during World War II.

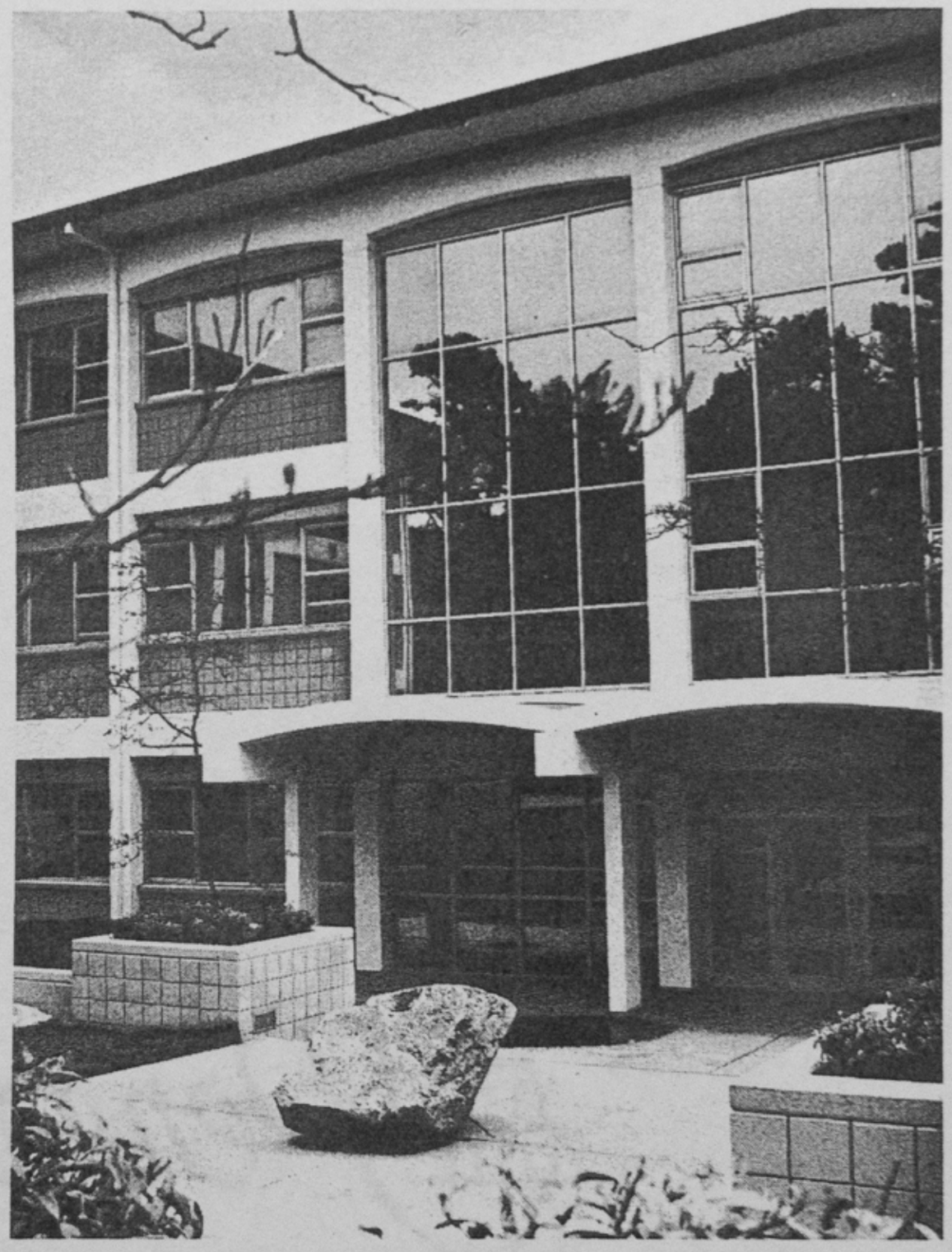
The public is invited to attend the ceremony as well as view the special historical photographic display that will be presented in the Asian Auditorium located in building 619. The display will be open to the public from 10 a.m. until noon.

The ceremony, scheduled for 1 p.m. will include comments from Col. Thomas G. Foster, III, DLI commandant; the Honorable Dr. Stephen R. Aiello, Special Assistant to the President for Ethnic Affairs; readings of State Legislative Resolutions from California and Hawaii; messages from various local and state government officials and from former distinguished members of the original Military Intelligence Service Language School staff; as well as unveiling the memorial.

On hand for the ceremony will be family members, friends and fellow servicemen of the three men who will be honored at the event.

The building memorialization was purposefully scheduled during this year's observance of Asian-Pacific American Heritage Week to help commemorate the contributions and sacrifices made by all Asian-Pacific Americans.





The entrance to Hachiya Hall will serve as the site of the dedication ceremony. The plaque, commemorating the event, will be mounted on the rock in the foreground and will be unveiled during the ceremony. (Photo by SSgt. Ann Montoya)

Letters from family and friends

George Nakamura

A voice, full of urgent pleading, would waken me: "Irene, I have to go to the bathroom, will you come with me?" I would come out of deep slumber, turn toward the voice, climb out of bed and after groping for the lightcord that would help us see our way down the long staircase to the lower level, I would follow him.

I can't remember if I ever refused to accompany him, but I do remember his favorite topic during those nocturnal visits, "Someday I'll get a little Austin and you can have the first ride in it with me."

During this period in his life, George was distributing newspapers early in the morning, helping with odd jobs at a gas station near our house after school and cleaning soda pop bottles in a bottling plant nearby. As young as he was, he was working very regularly and saving money toward that dream of owning an Austin.

We saw little of George during his high school years because when he wasn't busy in some school related activity, he was working in a restaurant owned by Mrs. Roussel, a friend's mother, who loved George almost as much as she loved her son. In May 1945, when my father and I returned to Santa Cruz to sell and vacate our house which had been totally vandalized, this woman came forward and offered us the warmth of her home. It was not a popular thing to do because we were still at war with Japan and hostility was more prevalent than kindness, but, as she told us, she was doing it for George.

Many letters passed between George and me in the years that he was away at war and the main line of thought throughout the ordeal was the useless wastes of war. Once he wrote of the irony of life: There he was, seeing so much death and destruction, while his goal in life was to become a doctor and preserve lives. To a soldier, the enemy is a face without a name or personality. To George, the enemy was another human being struggling to live, just as he was. He was as troubled by the death of a fellow American as he was in seeing the bodies of the dead enemy, all too young to die.

I would like to believe that George gave his life for his country, which he loved, while he made the sacrifice in executing a principle he held most dear. He gave his life in an effort to save other lives, lives of human beings who may not have heard his command to surrender and he wanted to give them the best possible chance to survive. More than brave, he was human.

Irene Nakamura Noda

Here are a few of the memories I have of George, my younger brother. We were just 14 months apart in age. In the short span of time we were together, I cannot recall one incident of unpleasantness between us.

George was always helpful and would quietly do what he could to lighten our mother's work load. He loved her with great devotion. He learned respect and sympathy for a woman's role in life as it was in those days.

Throughout his school career George was a good student. He enjoyed school and showed his versatility by joining the high school band while carrying a heavy college preparatory curriculum at the University of California, Berkeley.

George's studies at U.C. were terminated abruptly when World War II bombed its way into our lives and disrupted every American family. Family life for those of Japanese ancestry was put to a severe test as we were ordered to leave our beloved Pacific coast.

Family life was not all that was placed under stress. Our loyalty to the country of our birth was put to the ultimate test. George accepted the challenge and volunteered for the U.S. Army. The war and George's death is now history. He is remembered 35 years later with a warm glow of love and happy memories of shared experiences by this writer whose life has been enriched and blessed to have a brother like George.

Dora Kunishige

Terry Mizutari

Mom and Dad (Yasuyuki and Sueme Mizutari) came to Hawaii in their early teens, from Kumamoto, Japan.

Yukitaka, born May 3, 1920 in Honolulu, was their fifth child and second son. They had, in total, 10 children—six girls and four boys. He became the eldest son when the first son passed away with complications from measles at infancy. Dad had high hopes for him and of course, he was the apple of Dad's eye.

He had to strive to excel in everything as Dad and Mom were Japanese school teachers and stern disciplinarians.

All during his army career, he sent Mom a portion of his modest check, bought war bonds, and joined the Army insurance program.

Even after death, Yukitaka was a good son to Mom and Dad, as the bonds he had left in Mom's name were used as a down payment to build a home for them. His insurance kept Mom going until she passed away in 1975 . . . 31 years after his death.

Now after 36 years, we are honored and proud that Yukitaka's name will be used to memorialize a building. How happy and gratified Mom and Dad must be up there with him, as they observe this great occasion with us.

Masako M. Yoshioka

Ours was a very poor, poor family. Father was a small school (Japanese) Principal and Mother was the teacher. They taught only two hours each day, after public school was over and supported seven children. Yet, my childhood memories are all pleasant! We were a very close knit family. Yukitaka did well and was very active in high school. He was well-liked, very popular, excelled in Kendo (a Japanese fencing-martial arts) and thereby the girls used to flock around him alot.

I was in awe with him. I looked up to my big brother and respected and admired him.

He wanted so much to go to college but Dad and Mom just couldn't afford it. He went to Honolulu to work his way to Business School. Mom used to tell us that he suffered many hardships while going to school. I wish desperately that he could have had an easier life had God known that his life would be so short?

When he died in 1944, many letters of condolence and comfort came from his buddies. The thing that impressed me most in our Country's greatness and fair play was a picture sent by one of them that showed his grave marker. Amongst the rows and rows of crosses was my brother's Buddhist marker!

Fusako M. Nishikawa

Yukitaka was our shining light to follow in our life. When the war started, our father was taken from us and placed in a military concentration camp. He requested an audience with the Commander of the camp and stated: "My son is fighting for his country and I can do no less. Therefore, although I am old, I request that I be inducted into the Army so I may be of some use. There must be something I can do rather than being helpless in a camp." Needless to say, the Commander was speechless, but declined gracefully.

In 1953 our youngest brother was drafted into the Army and he was given the opportunity to go to the Officers Candidate School in Fort Benning, Georgia. Our mother said: "Yukitaka was going to that school to become an officer when he was held back to support a beachhead invasion. There were so few interpreters at that time to interrogate prisoners. He was killed in that invasion; so now, you must complete what he started to do." Our brother went and was one of 54 graduated out of 230 candidates.

Toshiyuki Mizutari

Frank Hachiya

(Editor's note: The following excerpts were taken from a speech made by Martha Fergusen Mckeown Dana at Frank's funeral service in Hood River, Ore. September 11, 1948)

I want to tell you of the Frank Hachiya I remember, for I knew him all of his life.

But I did not realize the quality of his thinking until be became my student when he was a freshman in college.

Frank's father inherited the family home in Japan and Mr. and Mrs. Hachiya, Frank and his little brother Homer went back and lived in Japan. Frank returned to Hood River four years later.

Written by Frank in her class:

"I really now think that living in Japan four years has done me great good. The appreciation of America or the love of one's country. Now I don't mean I don't like Japan, but I will never get so that I like her as well as America. As I was born and reared here, I am an American though I was born of Japanese parents. I read where some people stated that they did not fully appreciate their country until they had traveled abroad. And I too, after living across the sea realize it now."

After spending a year at Multnomah College, Frank transferred to the University of Oregon, where he was majoring in political science, because he believed that in a democracy each man must be informed in order to be worthy of citizenship.

Frank did not question democracy. He had become a student of democracy. The Frank Hachiya I knew was a thinker. He was a boy who wanted to make his life count for democracy. Again listen to his words, let him tell his own story: "I have come to the point where I feel that life is everywhere. It is in ourselves, not in what we witness outside."

"When I look back over life and think of the time I have wasted in vain, in ignorance of how to live, how I did not value time, it hurts me now. I am aware of the fact that life is a gift. It should be happiness and each minute shall have a long happiness. I shall be grateful of one thing to the war. That is in making me realize life."

Frank's last letter to reach Hood River contained these lines: "It won't surprise me in the least if the war in Europe will come to a sudden end. That day will be the death sentence of Japan. I don't see how she can stand up under the combined allied forces when she can't meet all the United States forces now. Perhaps we will be able to spend the Christmas of 1945 at home."

Now, at long last, Frank Hachiya has come home to the valley of his birth.

Though they have passed on to their ultimate rewards, they shall always live in our affectionate memories and in our hearts.

Col. Kai Rasmussen (Ret.)

Messages

(Editor's note: The following are excerpts from messages sent by Col. Kai Rasmussen and Brig. Gen. John Weckerling. Both are retired today, however they played an important role in establishing the language school. While stationed in Japan studying Japanese, they realized that war with Japan was evident. They convinced the War Department of the need for Japanese linguists upon their return to the states. Their insight was proven to be accurate as the school became operational only six weeks before the attack on Pearl Harbor.)

It is entirely fitting and appropriate that the three new academic buildings located at the Defense Language Institute be dedicated in honor of Sergeants Frank Hachiya, Hood River Valley, Ore.; George Nakamura, Santa Cruz, Calif. and Terry Mizutari, Hilo, Hawaii who were killed in action in the south west Pacific arena.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur, who commanded the entire Pacific theater of operations, and Gen. Charles Willoughby, who was responsible for all intelligence activities under General MacArthur, stated publicly that without the Japanese-American language specialists, victory in the south west Pacific would have been immensely more difficult to achieve.

John Weckerling
Brigadier General, USA (Ret.)

The honor now being bestowed upon Frank Hachiya, Terry Mizutari and George Nakamura, who gave their lives that democracy might triumph can be but inadequate. They gave their lives in order that others might live.

If I were to characterize the performance of their assigned tasks, I would say that they were Samurai fighting in accordance with Bushido, "the way of warriors" and its tenets of chivalry, loyalty and bravery.

I wish to pay respect and homage to these brave soldiers whose heroic feats contributed so materially to winning the war in the Pacific.

GLOBE

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Yukitaka Terry Mizutari



Terry Mizutari

Yukitaka "Terry" Mizutari was born in Honolulu, Hawaii on May 3, 1920, the fifth child of Yasuyuki and Sueme Mizutari. His life proved to be short, as on June 23, 1944, he was killed in action while defending his country.

Growing up during the depression, he overcame the many hardships that were faced by all and led a happy and active childhood. Terry found time for many activities such as a harmonica band, joining a dance club and learning the martial art of kendo. His talent also shone in art as he loved to sketch the young face of Shirley Temple.

After working his way through business college, he was drafted into the Army in 1941. He spent time at Camp Paukukalo in Hawaii and Camp McCoy before joining the Military Intelligence Section and going to Camp Savage, Minn.

Terry was a very conscientious son, sending home most of his pay to help support his family. He also took part in the Army bond program and the insurance that was made available to him. This thoughtfulness helped sustain his mother until her death in 1975.

Terry demonstrated his wit and character many times in his letters home. Frequently reporting the war around him in a joking manner, but also showing his displeasure for the destruction and the waste of war.

Mizutari died while placing himself in danger to defend the men serving under him from a Japanese attack. Due to his courage and unselfish actions no other member of his section was injured. Mizutari received the Silver Star for his act of bravery.

Terry Mizutari was a Nisei who fought, while his father was interned in a Relocation Center, against the country of his ancestors for the freedom of his country, America.

As one of Mizutari's fellow soldiers said, "That guy had guts—guts that no one could match."

George Ichiro Nakamura

George Nakamura was a Japanese-American (Nisei) who fought and died in World War II, for the country he loved, his country, America.

As a young man growing up in Santa Cruz, Calif., George showed no signs of becoming a hero. He was a typical boy committing his share of pranks and mishaps. But he was also a very dedicated and hard working child. He had high hopes for his future and earned the love and respect of friends and family.

In 1942, George and his family were interned in the Tule Lake Relocation Camp in California. Against the wishes of his father, but with his mothers support, he volunteered for the military intelligence school

While receiving intelligence training at Camp Savage, Minn., would frequently write home about the situation of other Nisei. He was greatly upset over the reluctance of his fellow Nisei to join the service and fight for their country, instead of being angry over their plight at the time.

In 1944, George was sent to New Guinea as an interpreter and translator. Though many miles away from home, he was still able to keep in contact with his family and friends through letters.

Nakamura was transferred in 1945 to the Philippines, where he was shocked by the destruction and waste of war as he visited Manila. He was also amused at the way some Filipinos could not understand why a Japanese would be fighting for the United States. They couldn't understand that he had been born in America and had been educated and indoctrinated with American ideals.

On June 29, 1945, while positioning himself within 25 yards of the enemy and trying to talk them into surrendering Nakamura was killed.

George Nakamura was awarded the Silver Star for his actions, demonstrating the courage and loyalty exemplary of the highest traditions of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Nakamura was proud of his Japanese and American heritage and gave his life defending the country he loved, America.



George Nakamura

Frank Tadakazu Hachiya



Frank Hachiya

Frank Hachiya has been described as very tall and athletic. He was a quiet, mild-mannered person and was well known for his modesty. Although he was in the highest level class for his proficiency in the Japanese language while attending the Military Intelligence Service Language School, he was often heard saying that he was not as good at translating the language as he would like to be.

Hachiya was born on May 13, 1920 in Hood River, Ore. There, he attended school and developed a deep friendship with one of his neighbors, Mrs. Martha Ferguson McKoewn Dana, who later taught him during his college years. Frank was a political science major. Mrs. Dana was so impressed with the ideals and beliefs of Frank Hachiya that she kept a file on his letters, written papers and school essays. During his funeral services held in Hood River three years after his death, Mrs. Dana described Hachiya's life and love of America.

Hachiya believed that the democratic way of life was worth fighting and dying for. In a letter to a friend he wrote, "May God speed you in your mission of restoring the democratic way of life to down trodden people, and to achieve and cherish everlasting peace for ourselves and for other nations."

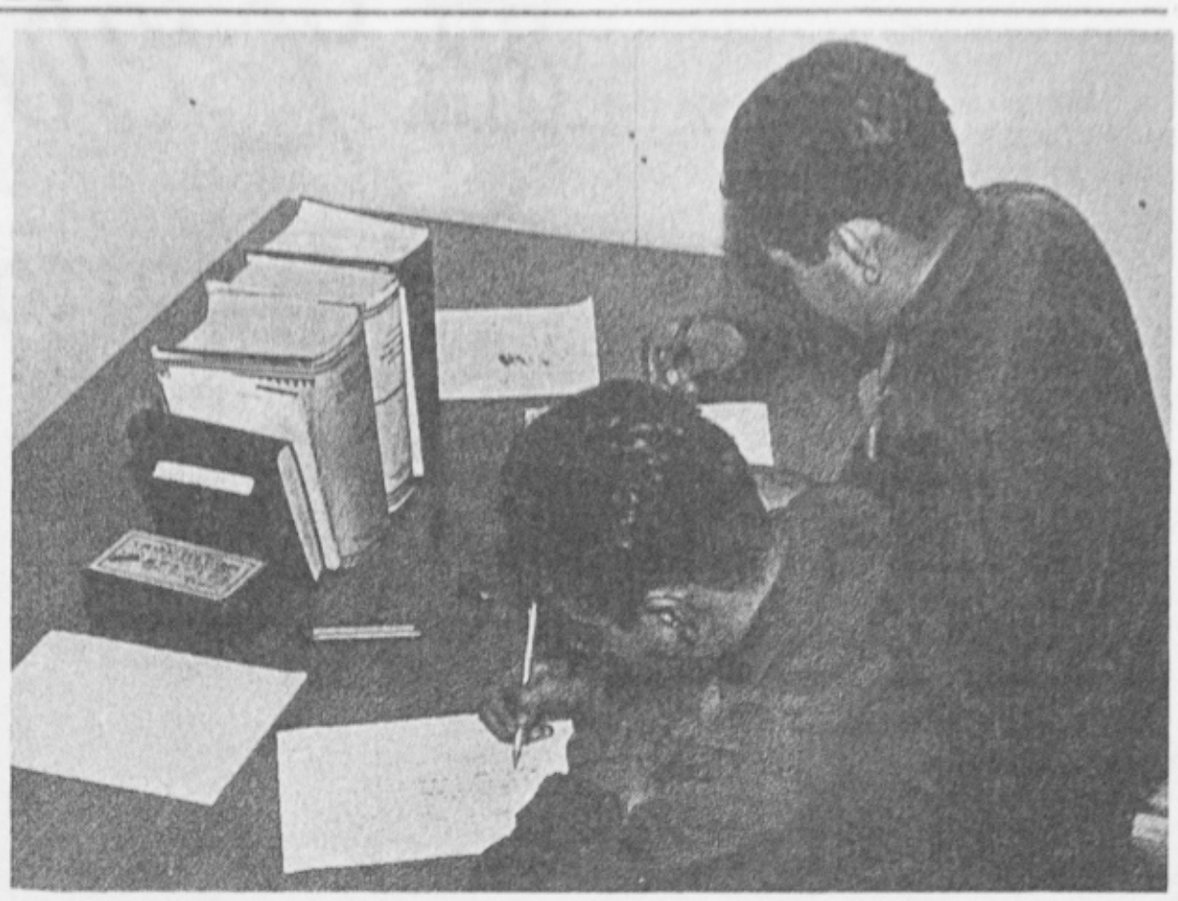
Hachiya made a difficult decision when he enlisted in the Army Jan. 7, 1942 as his mother and brother were living in Japan when the war broke out.

He served with the 7th and 32nd Infantry Divisions. He was scheduled to go on R & R back to Hawaii at the time of his death, but refused to go, electing to stay with his unit until the Leyte battle was over. He died on Jan. 3, 1945 as a result of wounds received in battle.

His body was sent to Hawaii where funeral services were held, and it was not until three years later that Hachiya was finally placed to rest in his hometown of Hood River. Anti-Japanese sentiment was so strong that Frank's father was reluctant to have his body buried in Hood River. However, three years later, due to the efforts of a fellow serviceman, Monroe Sweetland, Frank's body was returned and placed to rest among the other fallen soldiers of Hood River.



In addition to classroom training, students are able to improve their pronunciation by listening to tapes of the spoken language , a benefit of present technology.



Some things don't have to change as when you have a good thing that works you should stay with it. DLI still employs the use of intensive training as it did during World War II.

Nisei prove value of language specialist

DLI history begins with WWII

Today's building memorialization signifies more than the deaths of Frank Hachiya, Yukitaka Terry Mizutari and George Nakamura. It commemorates the contributions and dedication of all Japanese-Americans and their love for their country.

It was the need of the United States for Japanese linguists that not only created the concept of language training but also gave the Japanese-American the opportunity to show their loyalty to their country.

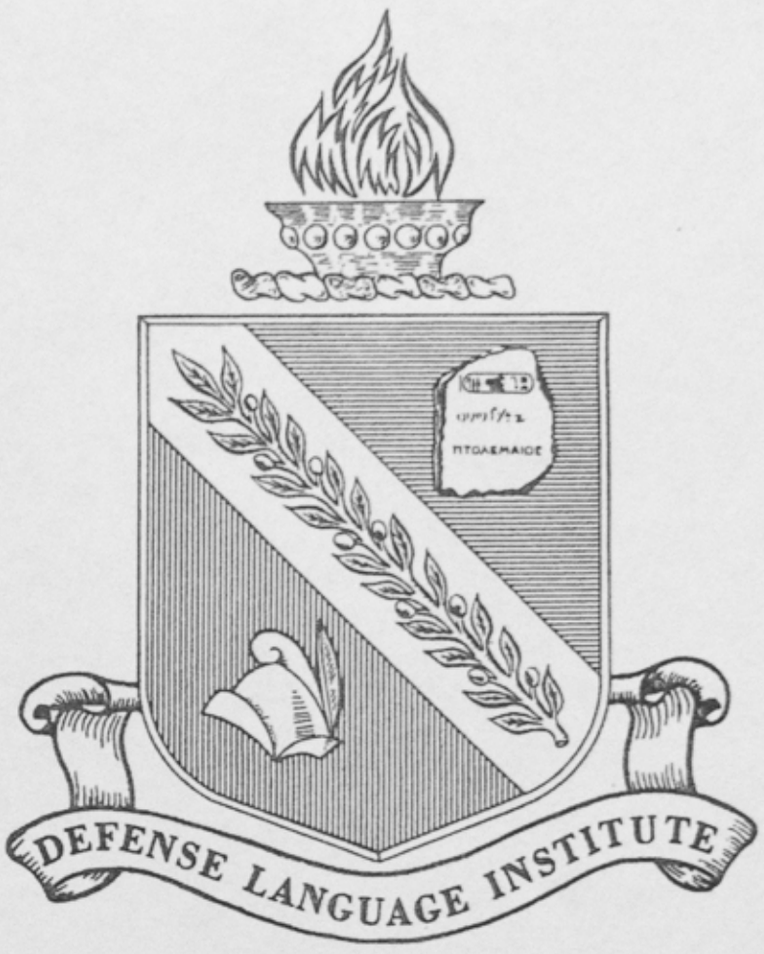
After the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, Americans became suspicious and fearful of all Japanese in the states. As a result, more than 100,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry were moved from the west coast and placed in relocation centers throughout the mid-west. Many Japanese-Americans already enlisted or drafted into the armed forces were either discharged or moved to central post locations.

Although the 4th Army Language School was established in secrecy six weeks before the bombing of Pearl Harbor the need and use of Japanese linguists did not become widely apparent until after the first group of graduates were working in the field. As their accomplishments became known, the demand for linguists increased and what began as a small, remote school with 60 students, eight instructors and a budget of $2,000 has developed into today's Defense Language Institute, Foreign Language Center.

By the end of WWII, the language school had graduated some 6,000 linguists. Today, DLI teaches 2,000 to 3,000 students at any given time.

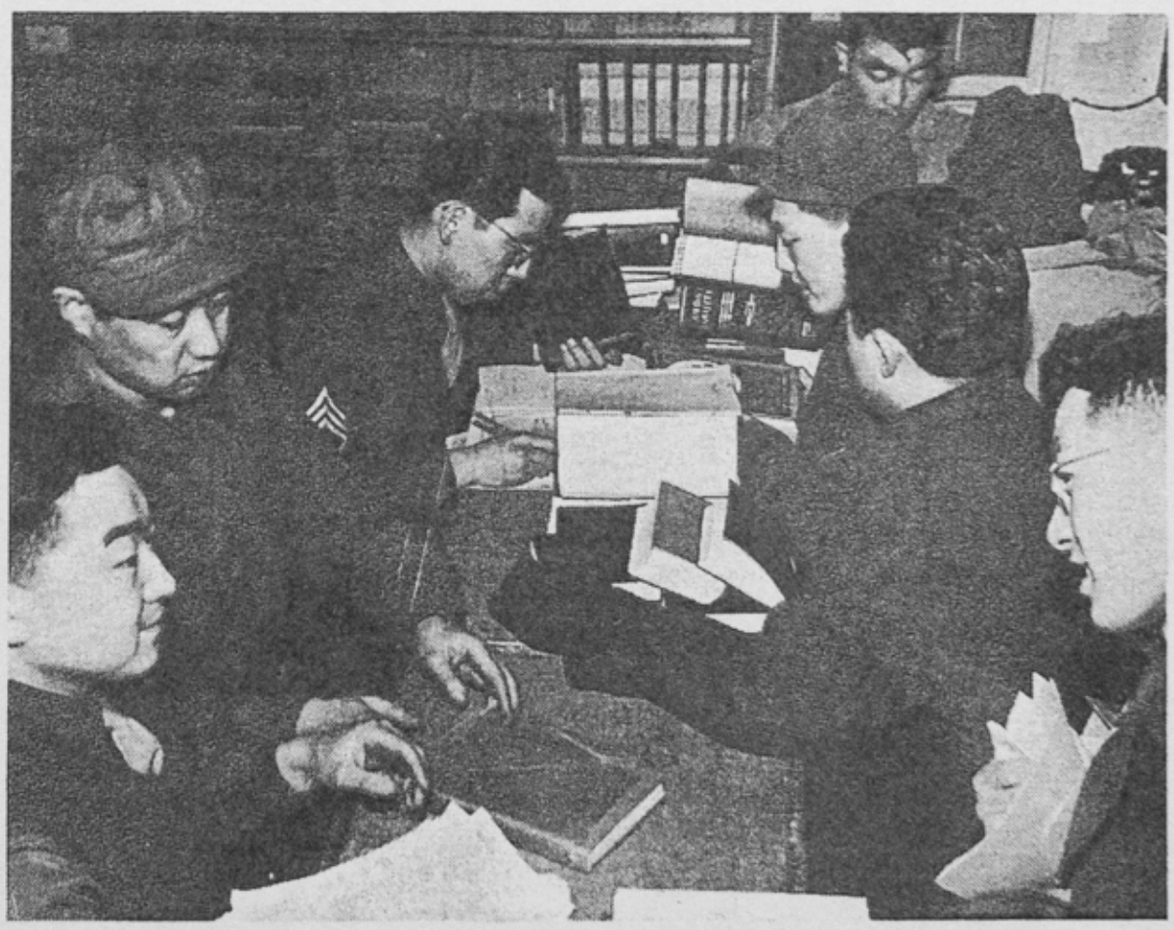
The Nisei linguists served to prove the usefullness and unquestionable need for foreign language specialists in the total effort in the defense of world peace.

Today, DLI teaches approximately 25 languages. Graduates are sent to all corners of the globe to continue the work that began in 1941. The concept of intensive training still is employed and is coupled with the newest technological equipment to produce proficient linguists in a minimum amount of time.





Shigeya Kihara, one of the original Japanese language instructors of the school, presents Col. Thomas G. Foster, III, DLI commandant, with the plaque commemorating the beginning of MISLS at Crissy Field, San Francisco. (Photo by SSgt. Ann Montoya)



Students of the early language school received their textbooks in much the same way as they do now. In the beginning, instructors were required to develop their own text books due to the lack of Japanese language texts. Today, the school develops most of its texts and study materials.



(Californian photo)

Relatives of three Japanese-American GIs killed in WW II watch as taps is played during Defense Language Institute ceremony Friday.

Japanese-American soldiers honored by language school

MONTEREY (UPI) — A new building at the Defense Language Institute in The Presidio has been dedicated to the memory of an Oregon Japanese-American whose death in World War II became a symbol of protest against racial intolerance.

In wind and rain Sgt. Frank T. Hachiya, Hood River, was honored Friday during a ceremony at the central building in the new DLI complex. Two other buildings were dedicated to the memory of Sgts. Ykitaka Terry Mizutari, Honolulu, and George Ikiro Nakamura who also died in the war.

During the war many Japanese-American servicemen were trained in Japanese at the institute, and this program drew the ire of some who felt they should not be allowed to fight for United States.

Hachiya was killed during the battle of Leyte in The Philippines on Dec. 30, 1944. He was awarded the Silver Star posthumously.

On Jan. 3, 1945, a national furor erupted when the Hood River American Legion Post tried to erase the names of 16 other Japanese-American soldiders from the town's war honor roll.

Hachiya's name had never been added to the list even though he had been raised on a farm in the area.

Then-Secretary of State Henry Stimson and several national publications as well as Stars and Stripes demanded that the names be returned to the list.