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F U T U R E

R E L E A S E

FOR RELEASE SATURDAY P.M. NEWSPAPERS, JULY 13, 1946

SECRETARY OF WAR PATTERSON PRAISES  
442ND INFANTRY REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

The Honorable Robert P. Patterson, Secretary of War, has sent the following letter to Lieutenant Colonel Alfred A. Pursall, Commanding 442nd Infantry Regimental Combat Team:

"Dear Colonel Pursall:

"On the eve of the deactivation of the 442nd Infantry Regimental Combat Team, I wish to express to the members of this organization the gratitude and appreciation of the War Department for their memorable services to their country.

"In Washington, after a final parade and review by the President, this organization marches into history. Its long fighting days are over. Its members lay down their arms and return to their homes. I cannot let this occasion pass without expressing my personal admiration for the outstanding accomplishments of this famous unit, composed almost entirely of Americans of Japanese ancestry.

"Through the bitter fighting in Italy and, later, as a part of the forces which struck at the German Armies through Southern France, the battle skill, cool bravery and individual fortitude of these men became legendary to comrades and enemy alike. On seven occasions, components of the 442nd won the President's Distinguished Unit Citation. Now the President himself is conferring this citation on the entire Combat Team. In addition to hundreds of awards for individual bravery, more than 3,600 Purple Hearts, given for wounds in action bear witness that these soldiers were always found at the hottest points of fire.

"These deeds are history. Soon the men who performed them -- the survivors of this gallant unit -- will return to their homes after receiving the honor and acclaim of their Commander-in-Chief and other leaders of their country. They go back as honored veterans to Hawaii, to the Western States and other communities which sent them to battle. Their friends and neighbors and all the citizens of the communities they represent share the pride in their heroic achievements. These men are heroes. No American will forget it. I hope their service to their country in peace will be marked by the same devotion to duty that characterized their military service.

Sincerely,

/s/ Robert P. Patterson

Secretary of War"

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July 11, 1946.



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13 July 1946

I M M E D I A T E

R E L E A S E

TEN MEMBERS OF 442ND COMBAT TEAM  
TO JOIN PRESIDENT AT FORMAL REVIEW

Ten outstanding members of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team have been selected to join President Truman in reviewing the Combat Team in the formal review at the Ellipse which will follow a parade on Constitution Avenue, Monday afternoon, July 15.

The one officer and nine enlisted men, members of the Japanese-American outfit and its component units were selected by Lt. Col. Alfred A. Pursall, of Crystal City, Missouri, Commanding Officer of the Combat Team and his staff both on the basis of their combat and efficiency records and as representatives of the geographical areas from which the personnel of the Nisei outfit volunteered for duty.

Other members of the President's reviewing party are Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson, and Brigadier General C. B. Ferenbaugh, Commanding General of the Military District of Washington who will act as Military Aide to the President.

The ten men, the unit which they represent, and their home addresses follow:

Staff Sergeant Don Shigeki, Company "M", 442nd Infantry Regiment, 141 Truman Boyd Manor, Long Beach, California.

Technical Sergeant George Nishimura, Company "L", 442nd Infantry Regiment, Box 23, Nyssa, Oregon.

Staff Sergeant Takashi Uyeno, Company "C", 100th Battalion, Fort Lupton, Colorado.

Staff Sergeant Marcus Naito, Company "B", 100th Battalion, 3801 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

1st Lieutenant Kiyoshi D. Teraoka, DC, Medical Detachment, Pauhau, Hawaii.

Technical Sergeant Hiroshi Itakura, Company "L", 442nd Infantry Regiment, Waimea, Kauai, Territory of Hawaii.

Staff Sergeant Sakai Hiromoto, Company "L", 442nd Infantry Regiment, 2328 Lime Lime Street, Honolulu, Territory Of Hawaii.

Technical Sergeant Kazuto Urada, Company "C", 100th Battalion, Captain Cook, Kona, Territory of Hawaii.

Sergeant Shigeki Fukuda, Company "C", 100th Battalion, Kaneoke, Oahu, Territory of Hawaii.

Staff Sergeant Yeikido, Asato, Company "A", 100th Battalion, Haiku, Maui, Territory of Hawaii.

Each of these ten men earned the right to wear the Combat Infantryman's Badge, including Lt. Teraoka who served as a line officer before transferring to the Medical Detachment. Both T/Sgt. Nishimura and S/Sgt. Uyeno were awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action against the enemy.

The ten men will join the reviewing party after President Truman affixes the Presidential Distinguished Unit Citation banner to the colors of the 442nd Combat Team.

END

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12:15 FM



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July 12, 1946

I M M E D I A T E

R E L E A S E

442ND COMBAT TEAM WILL  
DEACTIVATE IN HAWAII

Changes have been made in the plans for the inactivation of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team which was scheduled to take place at Fort Belvoir, Virginia next week following the full dress parade and review by President Truman Monday, July 15.

The War Department has announced that the inactivation has been postponed and will take place after the Combat Team returns to the Hawaiian Islands, the home of approximately half of the 500 officers and enlisted men who returned from overseas with the famed Japanese-American outfit. Personnel of the 442nd who reside in the United States will be transferred to separation centers within this country and will not accompany the remainder of the unit to Hawaii.

Returning to Hawaii with the 237 officers and enlisted personnel of the 442nd will be the colors of both the famed 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Combat Team. Earlier plans had called for the colors of the 442nd to remain in Washington while the colors of the 100th were returned to Hawaii. The regimental colors of the 442nd will play a prominent part in the ceremony at the Ellipse Monday when President Truman affixes the Presidential Distinguished Unit Citation banner to the colors.

President Truman will both inspect and review the troops in the formal review which follows the parade down Constitution Avenue from Fourth Street NW and the official reviewing party will also include Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson and ten outstanding men of the unit.

Honored guests who have been invited to witness the review include: The Honorable Kenneth McKellar, President Pro Tempore of the Senate; the Honorable Sam Rayburn, Speaker of the House of Representatives; the Honorable Albert D. Thomas, Chairman of the Senate Military Affairs Committee; the Honorable Andrew J. May, Chairman of the House Military Affairs Committee; the Honorable Joseph R. Farrington, delegate of the Territory of Hawaii to Congress; the Honorable John J. McCloy, former Assistant Secretary of War; Mr. John W. Martyn, Administrative Assistant to the Secretary of War; Mr. Dillon S. Myer, former Director, War Relocation Authority; Mr. Earl Finch; General Thomas T. Handy, Deputy Chief of Staff; General Jacob L. Devers, Commanding General, Army Ground Forces; Lieutenant General J. Lawton Collins, Chief of Public Information; Major General W. M. Hoge, Commanding General, Fort Belvoir, Virginia; Major General Floyd L. Parks, Chief, Public Relations Division; Major General A. M. Gruenther, Deputy Commandant, National War College; Major General Charles L. Bolte, former Commanding General 34th Infantry Division; Major General John E. Dahlquist, former Commanding General, 36th Infantry Division; and Brigadier General George C. Beach, Jr., Commanding General, Army Medical Center.

The United States Army Band will march with the 442nd Combat Team in the parade and review.

MORE



The details of the parade and review of the Nisei outfit, one of the most highly decorated units of its size in World War II, follow:

- 2 p.m. Parade starts at 4th Street NW and Constitution Avenue and proceeds West on Constitution Avenue to the Ellipse.
- 2:30 P.M. Parade reaches Ellipse and marches onto the Ellipse. President Truman arrives at North end of Ellipse and is greeted by Secretary of War Patterson.

President Truman and Secretary of War Patterson inspect troops and return to position in front of platform where honored guests are seated.

Colors of 442nd and 100th Battalion and guidons of component units march to the front with the ten selected men.

Following a brief statement, President Truman affixes the Presidential Distinguished Unit Citation Banner to the colors of the 442nd.

Ten selected men join reviewing party as colors and guidons return to position in formation.

Formal review.

- 2 -

END

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5:30 PM

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July 9, 1946

I M M E D I A T E

R E L E A S E

PRESIDENT TRUMAN TO REVIEW  
442ND ICT ON ELLIPSE MONDAY

President Truman will review the 442nd Infantry Regimental Combat Team in a full dress review on the Ellipse adjoining the White House following a parade on Constitution Avenue in the Nation's Capital on Monday, July 15, 1946.

The Japanese-American troops will form for the parade in the vicinity of the Capitol and will march to the Ellipse via Constitution Avenue, beginning at 2 p.m. and arriving at the Ellipse at about 2:30 p.m.

Tentative plans call for other members of the reviewing party to include: Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson; the Honorable Joseph R. Farrington, delegate of the Territory of Hawaii to Congress; General Jacob L. Devers, Commanding General, Army Ground Forces; and other military officials. Brigadier General C. B. Ferrenbaugh, Commanding General, Military District of Washington, will act as military aide to the President for the ceremony.

After the parade arrives at the Ellipse and is reported to the President by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Alfred A. Pursall, the President and his party will inspect the troops.

Following this inspection, the officers of the unit, the colors of both the 442nd and the 100th Battalion, and ten outstanding men of the combat team will advance to the front of the reviewing stand where President Truman will affix the Presidential Distinguished Unit Citation banner to the colors of the 442nd. These ten selected men will then join the party to review the troops in the formal review which follows.

More than 500 officers and enlisted men of the highly decorated outfit returned to the United States on Tuesday, July 2, for inactivation of the 442nd and its component units and demobilization for the personnel. They landed in New York City where they were guests at many "Welcome Home" receptions and on Saturday, July 6, were moved to Fort Belvoir, Virginia to be re-equipped and otherwise prepared for the parade.

Of the officers and enlisted men who returned to the United States, 237 are from the Territory of Hawaii and will return there for separation following the parade and review Monday.

The motto of the 442nd is "Go for Broke" which is the Nisei interpretation of "shoot the works". The combat record of the Combat Team exemplifies the sincerity with which the soldiers followed their motto. Component parts of the 442nd were awarded seven Presidential Distinguished Unit Citations. Individual awards earned by combat troops of the unit include: One Medal of Honor; 47 Distinguished Service Crosses; One Distinguished Service Medal; 12 Oak Leaf Clusters to the Silver Star Medal; 350 Silver Star Medals; 18 Legion of Merit Medals; 16 Soldier's Medals; 41 Oak Leaf Clusters to the Bronze Star Medal and 823 Bronze Star Medals. More than 3,600 Purple Hearts were awarded men of this unit for wounds suffered in action against the enemy.

END

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July 2, 1946

I M M E D I A T E

R E L E A S E

442ND REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM  
TO PARADE ON WHITE HOUSE GROUNDS

As a special tribute to the outstanding combat record of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, 500 of its officers and men will be taken by special trains to the Nation's Capital for a full-dress parade and review on the White House grounds, it was announced today by the War Department.

Under a revision of plans which had called for inactivation of the 442nd at Camp Kilmer, New Jersey, it will be inactivated at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, following the review.

The troopship "Wilson Victory," originally scheduled to arrive at New York the night of July 4, will dock there today (Tuesday, July 2, 1946) at 6:00 P.M. Following a reception which will include an aerial display, band music and addresses of welcome by high-ranking officers, the Japanese-American troops will debark, then be taken to Camp Kilmer. They will entrain from there at a later date for Fort Belvoir, where they will be re-equipped and otherwise prepared for the review on the Ellipse adjoining the White House.

Following formal inactivation, men of the 442nd will be assigned to various Separation Centers for honorable discharge. More than 150 officers and men will return to homes in the Hawaiian Islands.

Of the 500 returnees, 469 have seen combat duty in an outfit that is one of the most highly decorated in the Army. As a unit it has won the exceptional total of eight Presidential citations, while its men have been awarded 3,600 Purple Hearts for wounds suffered in action against the enemy.

END

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