

## **INFORMATION SHEET FOR THE HAWAII 442<sup>ND</sup> RCT COMMUNITY ON THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY (NMUSA)**

### **Introduction:**

- The U.S. Army plans to open a new National Museum of the United States Army (NMUSA) near Washington, D.C., in 2019 that will honor the service and sacrifice of Soldiers, Civilians and Families; support Soldier training; and share and preserve the legacy of Army stories and histories. NMUSA will include recognition of the WWII Nisei Soldiers of the 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion, 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT, and Military Intelligence Service.
- NMUSA will be located at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, which is 20 miles south of Washington, D.C. Construction of the 3-story, 185,000 square foot structure is well underway.
- The Army Historical Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization, is the official fundraiser for NMUSA and once built, the U.S. Army will own and operate NMUSA.

### **NMUSA Outreach:**

- NMUSA, with the support of the National Veterans Network (NVN), a consortium of organizations committed to perpetuating the WWII Nisei Soldier story, is seeking assistance from local communities in creating the museum's WWII Nisei Soldier sections. Specifically, NMUSA wants nominations for individual Nisei Soldier stories, as well as, donated objects/artifacts for the Nisei Soldier display cases.
- A very aggressive and tight deadline of one year has been established to complete the NMUSA WWII Nisei Soldier sections.

### **How the 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT Hawaii Community Can Support the NMUSA:**

- **Submit Individual 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT Nisei Soldier Stories –**
  - ✓ NMUSA is looking for 5 to 7 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT Hawaii Nisei Soldier stories to highlight but will accept a larger number. The emphasis will be on the Soldier's military experience so he must have participated in the European Campaign. Specifically, NMUSA will look for Soldier experiences with the Battle/Liberation of Bruyeres, Battle of the Lost Battalion, Gothic Line, and Liberation of the Dachau subcamp/Breakup of the Death March.
  - ✓ Soldier stories that are accompanied by photos, oral histories, letters, and/or objects/artifacts will have a greater likelihood of being selected.
  - ✓ Soldier stories will be evaluated for demonstrations of loyalty, honor, duty, selfless service, integrity, respect, and personal courage.
  - ✓ NMUSA will balance both the mainland and Hawaii experiences to tell the national story of the Nisei Soldiers. The final number of Nisei Soldier stories in the exhibit is yet to be determined.
  - ✓ Nominations should be submitted using the attached ***National Veterans Network - Nisei Soldier Exhibit at the National Museum of US Army Japanese American WWII Soldier Nomination Form***. The *Form* should be provided to Lynn Heirakuji via email:

[LHeirakuji@gmail.com](mailto:LHeirakuji@gmail.com). Make sure you've identified a POC for the nomination. The Sons & Daughters of the 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT will forward completed *Forms* to the NVN. The NVN along with U.S Army officials will determine which stories will be featured in the exhibit.

- ✓ Deadline for the submission of *Forms* to the NVN is **October 15, 2017** so please ensure that Lynn receives completed *Forms* by **October 1, 2017**.
- **Donate Objects/Artifacts for the WWII Nisei Soldier Exhibit –**
  - ✓ NMUSA is planning to display ten objects in the WWII Nisei Soldier exhibit display cases – one object has already been selected. NMUSA is not limiting what the objects can be but is interested in items such as -
    - 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT helmets
    - Gold Star and Blue Star flags
    - 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT colors
    - Senninbari (cloth with 1000 stitches sown by mothers; worn around Soldier stomachs or carried in their pockets)
    - Medals (Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, Silver Star, and Purple Heart)
    - Items with 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT emblems such as jackets, shirts, uniforms, flags, etc.
    - Items associated with, used or worn during battles such as binoculars, compasses, watches, badges, etc.
    - Diaries, scrapbooks, maps, and photos
  - ✓ Note that objects/artifacts donated will be considered to be permanent and not loaned gifts to the U.S. Army.
  - ✓ Procedure for Submitting Objects/Artifacts for Consideration
    - Send an email by **September 30, 2017** to Christine Sato-Yamazaki of the NVN along with a photo of the object, name of the Nisei Soldier, unit, background of the object, and any other relevant information. Christine's email address is [info@nationalveteransnetwork.com](mailto:info@nationalveteransnetwork.com). Please cc [LHeirakuji@gmail.com](mailto:LHeirakuji@gmail.com).
    - Christine will send the information to the U.S. Army for evaluation. If the Army is interested in the object, the submitter will be asked to complete the attached **GIFT AGREEMENT** to begin the formal review and approval process.
    - NMUSA will continue to seek donations beyond the above deadline for possible use in future exhibits.

Two Attachments:

- ***National Veterans Network - Nisei Soldier Exhibit at the National Museum of US Army Japanese American WWII Soldier Nomination Form***
- **GIFT AGREEMENT, DA FORM 5572-R, OCT 2016**

**NVN Contact:** Christine Sato-Yamazaki, [info@nationalveteransnetwork.com](mailto:info@nationalveteransnetwork.com)

**Hawaii 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT Contact:** Lynn Heirakuji, [LHeirakuji@gmail.com](mailto:LHeirakuji@gmail.com), 240 351-8656