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November 14, 1945

MEMORANDUM ON CONFERENCE WITH JOHN J. McCLOY, ASSISTANT
SECRETARY OF WAR ON NOVEMBER 14, 1945

troops. Major Fukuda made several final requests of Mr. McCloy.

He asked that members of his unit be permitted to

Major M. Fukuda of the 100th Infantry called on
take furloughs in the States before being returned to Hawaii

John J. McCloy, Assistant Secretary of War, to express the
for discharge. He pointed out that, in some instances, the
appreciation of himself and members of the 100th Infantry for
denial of this privilege had caused some hardship to the men

the interest and confidence he had shown in this unit from
who desire to explore the opportunities for educational training
the very out-set of its formation. The Major said that the
in the States prior to returning to Hawaii.

opportunity provided the unit for service in the United States

The Major also asked Mr. McCloy that some steps be
Army was deeply appreciated.

taken to perpetuate the identity of the 100th Infantry with the

In response, Mr. McCloy said that the confidence he
Territory of Hawaii. The possibility that one of the units of
had reposed in the Americans of Japanese ancestry, who had
the National Guard be given this designation for this purpose
served in the 100th Infantry and the units organized at a
was suggested.

later date, had vindicated them, and that he was very proud

He asked also that the colors of the 100th Infantry be
of the part he had in bringing them into the service. He said
returned to Honolulu.

that on his tour of the battlefronts he had found on every hand

*May be a currency in Washington or all over the US
on the same day*

that these men had won the confidence of America's fighting troops. Major Fukuda made several final requests of Mr. McCloy.

He asked that members of his unit be permitted to take furloughs in the States before being returned to Hawaii for discharge. He pointed out that, in some instances, the denial of this privilege had caused some hardship to the men who desire to explore the opportunities for educational training in the States prior to returning to Hawaii.

The Major also asked Mr. McCloy that some steps be taken to perpetuate the identity of the 100th Infantry with the Territory of Hawaii. The possibility that one of the units of the National Guard be given this designation for this purpose

was suggested. *Official letter to be written by Farrington after conference with 100th Bn officials in Honolulu.*

He asked also that the colors of the 100th Infantry be returned to Honolulu. *National ceremony to be held later*

presenting all state colors or locally famous colors. May be a ceremony in Washington or all over the US on the same day.

Mr. McCloy expressed a sympathetic interest in this request, and said he would see what steps could be taken to carry them out, as among the final acts he will perform as Assistant Secretary of War. The latter statement was prompted by the announcement that his resignation from this position had been accepted by the President. He will return to private practice in New York.

In discussing the future policy with relation to the Americans of Japanese ancestry, Major Fukuda expressed the hope that the practice of segregating them into separate units be discontinued. He told the Assistant Secretary of War that he felt that the formation of the units of Japanese ancestry in this war had served its purpose. In this sentiment the Assistant Secretary of War concurred completely.

The thought came out of the suggestion that if the 100th Infantry is designated as one of the units in the National Guard of Hawaii that American citizens of all racial extractions

be covered into its membership. Mr. McCloy explained the War Department originally had planned to return members of units such as the 100th and 442nd to their homes as units in order that an appropriate reception might be accorded them and more emphasis given the special service they had rendered, but that the Department was compelled to abandon this plan because of the pressure for demobilization. This made it necessary to set up the system whereby the members of these units were demobilized individually. In consequence, the original plans had to be abandoned.