

EPILOGUE

I went back to Mountain View after my discharge and worked at the docks, on a macadamia nut farm, and as a mechanic's helper for awhile. I finally decided there wasn't any real future there so, since I had liked Denver, I went back there in November of 1947. I used the GI Bill and went to a trade school and became a mechanic. For the next 37 years I worked for the government at Rocky Mountain Arsenal which is just on the edge of Denver. During this time I met and married Betty Saito and we raised two sons, Chris and David. I retired from RMA in 1987. Betty and I continued to live in Westminster in the greater Denver area.

In 1993, I went back to Hawaii for a reunion. I had originally planned on going to the 100th/442nd reunion in Honolulu, but my home town of Mountain View had a reunion for all the local boys so I went there instead. It was nice to see all my old friends. While in Hawaii I saw Tom Fuji who was now a politician. I hadn't seen him since we met in Marseille in 1945.

The 100/442nd reunion in 1994 was in Las Vegas Nevada, and I was all set to go. Had my reservations and everything and then I learned that *Mom*, the lady that was so good to us on Ward D-5 way back in 1945, died so I felt I had to go to her funeral instead. Betty went to Las Vegas and told my friends why I didn't come.

On May 23, 1995, 50 years after I was admitted to Fitzsimons General Hospital, a friend who teaches there, invited me out to look around the hospital which is now known as Fitzsimons Army Medical Center. We even found the old ward where I was an in-patient. It isn't a ward any more but is part of the Medical Equipment Maintenance School. It was under renovation the day I saw it so there wasn't much to look at. I went to the gym where I spent so many hours in rehab, and it is in the same place. My major impression was that the hospital was so empty compared to when I was a patient. When I was there, it was crowded with hundreds and hundreds of casualties all wearing the maroon convalescent suits we wore. Now it is so quiet! My friend had the post newspaper do an article on my military service and hospitalization there. I really didn't want to, but he finally convinced me that it was past of the hospital's history so I said OK. It was a nice article.

I have lots of memories of World War II. I think we Nisei fought hard to show the American people we were good, loyal citizens and we succeeded! The 100th Battalion and the 442nd RCT

made military history, and we helped the Japanese-American people in the United States become better accepted by the white population. I am proud to have been a part of it!!

This document contains words that are military oriented or words common during the 1940s.

side-by-side: A junior officer assigned to a general in formation as an administrative assistant.

Basic Combat Training: The first military training a new soldier receives.

Big Island: The name applied to the island of Hawaii.

Division: An area where soldiers pitch tents in the field and live for a short period of time.

Company: A group of experienced soldiers whose mission is to train inexperienced soldiers.

Bay room: An area set aside in or near the barracks where soldiers go to relax, write letters, play various games, listen to the radio etc.

Boy bags: Two small metal bags worn on a chain around the soldier's neck. The bags contain personal information on the soldier such as name, religion, blood type etc.

Duffel bag: A large canvas bag used by soldiers in which to carry his personal items when traveling from place to place.

Garage: A large hall dug by soldiers for shelter from the enemy or the weather.

Latrine: A military latrine worn while doing physical work or a chamber during the war years.

Plank (Horn): The outer edge of a military position.

Yard (Yard): A unit movement which tries to move troops around the ends of another unit in order to get into the enemy's rear area.

Bandolier: A small hole dug on the battlefield for protection from the enemy. It was usually dug for one or two men.

Bandage: A long colored cotton military bandage for dressing up during the war years.

RT: Kitchen pointer. A military duty of privates when they are required to clean up the dining areas and kitchen in an army mess hall.

Liberty Bell: A small, brass produced during World War II in the thousands during World War II.

Machete (Tommy Gun): A small hand held weapon of the Germans that was capable of automatic fire.

Machete: An automatic soldier that fits into a small weapon. The spring in the bottom forces a round of ammunition up and into the firing chamber after the weapon is fired.

Newsroom: A field exercise during which the military forces battle each other without using live ammunition.

News hall: The dining facility where soldiers eat.

PO: Non-commissioned officer. There are all the sergeants.

GLOSSARY

This glossary includes words that are military oriented or were common during the 1940s.

Aide-de-camp: A junior officer assigned to a general to function as an administrative assistant.

Basic Combat Training: The first military training a new soldier receives.

Big Island: The name applied to the island of Hawaii.

Bivouac: An area where soldiers pitch tents in the field and live for a short period of time.

Cadre: A group of experienced soldiers whose mission is to train inexperienced soldiers.

Day room: An area set aside in or near the barracks where soldiers go to relax, write letters, play various games, listen to the radio etc.

Dog tags: Two small metal tags worn on a chain around each soldier's neck. The tags contains personal information on the soldier such a name, religion, blood type etc.

Duffel bag: A large canvas bag each soldier is issued in which to carry his personal items when traveling from place to place.

Dugout: A large hole dug by soldiers for shelter from the enemy or the weather.

Fatigues: A military uniform worn while doing physical work or in combat during the warm seasons.

Flank: (Noun)The outer edges of a military position.

(Verb) A unit movement which tries to move troops around the ends of another unit in order to get into the enemy's rear area.

Foxhole: A small hole dug on the battlefield for protection from the enemy. It was usually dug for one or two men.

Khakis: A tan colored cotton military uniform for dressing up during the warm seasons.

KP: Kitchen police. A military duty of privates when they are required to clean up the dining areas and kitchens in an Army mess hall.

Liberty Ship: A small, massed produced cargo ship numbering in the thousands during World War II.

Machine gun pistol: A small hand held weapon of the Germans that was capable of automatic fire.

Magazine: An ammunition holder that fits into a small weapon. The spring in the bottom forces a round of ammunition up and into the firing chamber after the weapon is fired.

Maneuver: A field exercise during which two military forces battle each other without using live ammunition.

Mess hall: The dining facility where soldiers eat.

NCO: Non-commissioned officer. These are all the sergeants.

Pidgin English: An informal language made up of parts of English and another language with simple grammar that enables people to converse without being proficient in either language.

ROTC: Reserve Officer Training Corps. College students taking classes from Army personnel at the college in order to become an officer when they graduate.

Schofield Barracks: The major Army post in the territory of and the state of Hawaii.

Strafing: The term applied to an airplane flying low and machine-gunning men or equipment on the ground.

10-in-1 rations: An Army ration of World War II that contained enough cans of food to feed ten soldiers.

Tracers: A round of ammunition that has been treated so that it leaves a visual track of its flight after being fired. It is used by gunners to adjust fire.

USO: The United Services Organization. An organization that provided recreational facilities and entertainment to soldiers, both in the United States and on overseas bases.

War Department: The government agency that supervised all matters pertaining to the Army prior to 1947. It is now known as Department of the Army.

