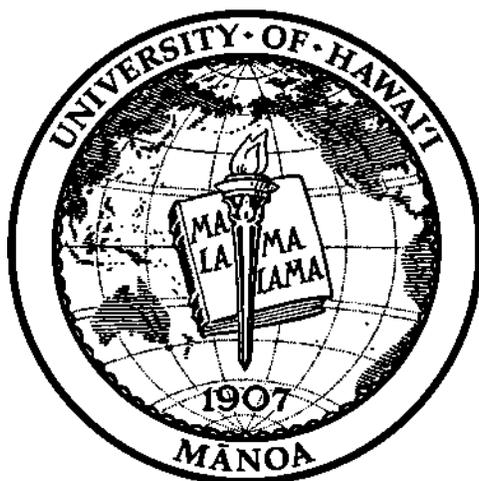


UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA

## 442<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club Collection

### Finding Aid



Japanese American Veterans Collection

Archives & Manuscripts Department  
University of Hawaii at Manoa Library

September 2006

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## Introductory Information

<b>Collection Name:</b>	442 <sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club Collection
<b>Dates:</b>	1881-2005 (bulk 1944-1945)
<b>Size of Collection:</b>	23 linear feet (as of August 2006)
<b>Creator of Papers:</b>	442 <sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club of Honolulu, Hawaii

### Abstract:

The 442<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club of Honolulu was organized in 1946 by veterans of the 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team, a Japanese American military unit that fought in Europe during World War II. Members of the 442<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club include veterans assigned to the 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team, which consisted of the 100th Infantry Battalion, 1st Battalion, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Battalion, Special Companies, the 522nd Field Artillery Battalion, the 232nd Combat Engineer Company, and the 206th A.G.F. Band. Sons and daughters of the veterans also have a chapter called Sons and Daughters of the 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT. The club actively participates in community service events.

The collection contains general materials, *Go For Broke* bulletins, National Archives documents, photographs, and memorabilia. General materials include items relating to the major anniversaries of the 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team, the memoirs of the L Company and Chaplain Yamada, and the G Company morning report. The series "Go For Broke Bulletin" contains original copies of the quarterly newsletter of the 442<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club. "National Archives Documents" contains copies of original items held at the National Archives in Washington, D.C., relating to the 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT and other groups of Japanese Americans who served in World War II. The contents of the series "Photographs" have not been fully accessioned and therefore have not been inventoried or processed. The series "Memorabilia" contains items donated by the 442<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club, which include a World War II U.S. Army "Eisenhower Jacket" worn by a member of the 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT.

Materials are arranged alphabetically and reflect the original organization of the 442<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club, with the exception of *Go For Broke* bulletins, which are arranged chronologically.

## Administrative Information

- Repository Information:** Archives & Manuscripts Department  
University of Hawaii at Manoa Library  
2550 McCarthy Mall  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822  
Phone: (808) 956-6047  
Fax: (808) 956-5968  
Email: [archives@hawaii.edu](mailto:archives@hawaii.edu)  
URL: <http://libweb.hawaii.edu/libdept/archives/>
- Processing Archivist:** Laura Capell
- Completion Date:** March 2006
- Restrictions:** None
- Provenance:** Donated in installments by the 442nd Veterans Club of Honolulu beginning in 2001.
- Preferred Citation:** [Identification of item], 442nd Veterans Club Collection, Archives & Manuscripts Department, University of Hawaii at Manoa Library.
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## Organizational History

The 442<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club of Honolulu was organized in 1946 by veterans of the 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team, a Japanese American military unit that fought in Europe during World War II. The official charter recognizing the formation of the club was signed by Masao Yamada, the club's first president, on 31 July 1946.

According to the club's official charter, the purpose of the club is to:

- preserve the fellowship of the veterans of the 442<sup>nd</sup> Combat Team
- honor and esteem the supreme sacrifices made by the deceased comrades and to preserve and uphold the high traditions of the 442<sup>nd</sup> Combat Team
- promote mutual aid among its members and their families
- provide means for social relationship and recreation among its members and their families and friends
- promote understanding and unity among veterans, civic organizations and all people in the community, to preserve and extend the spirit of loyal devotion to America and its ideals, to promote understanding and acceptance of the American way of life among all people in the community, and to encourage and assist its members in such endeavors.

Club officers include a president, one or more vice-presidents, a secretary, and a treasurer, all of whom are regular members of the club. The club also has a Board of Directors with between five and 30 members.

Chaplain Masao Yamada served as the first club president; James Kamo and Tadao Beppu were the first vice-presidents; Bert Nishimura served as secretary; and Fred Matauo was the first treasurer.

Members of the first Board of Directors included the club officers, Jack Conley, Barney Ono, Robert Taira, Takeo Hedani, Akira Hamaguchi, Herbert Isonaga, Keichiro Yamato, Minoru Ikehara, Joseph Kiyonaga, Paul Nishimura, James Takaki, Katsugo Miho, Gilbert Kobatake, Dan Konno, Ramon Wasano, and Norman Sato.

Members of the 442<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club include veterans assigned to the 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team, which consisted of the 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, and Special Companies (Anti-Tank Company, Cannon Company, Regimental Headquarters Company, Service Company, Regimental Medical Detachment), the 522<sup>nd</sup> Field Artillery Battalion, the 232<sup>nd</sup> Combat Engineer Company, and the 206<sup>th</sup> A.G.F. Band. Sons and daughters of the veterans also have a chapter Sons and Daughters of the 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT.

Regular membership for veterans living on Oahu is \$15 per year. Associate memberships for veterans living off-island is \$10 per year. In 1967, the club enacted a lifetime membership plan.

The 442<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club is located in Honolulu at 933 Wiliwili Street. In June 1948, nine members of the original Moiliili Young Men's Association offered its facilities to the club on a 50-year lease at \$1 per year. On 27 June 1952, the Moiliili YMA members formally transferred the property in fee simple to the 442<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club. A new clubhouse building with apartments was then constructed and dedicated on 17 December 1960.

The club has actively participated in community service events. Some of the organizations that the club has worked with include: the American Red Cross, the March of Dimes, the War Orphans Scholarship Fund, Kuakini Hospital and Home, the Hawaii Association to Help Retarded Children, the 25<sup>th</sup> Division's "Operation Helping Hand" Drive, the Italian Flood Relief Fund, and the Easter Seals. Since 1958, the club has co-sponsored the annual State High School Baseball Championship Tournament and the Japan-Hawaii Goodwill Baseball series, in which a team of high school baseball players make goodwill tours to Japan and Hawaii alternately every two years.

The club continues to maintain an archive, which is available for research by appointment. To learn more about the 442<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club and the Archives, call (808) 945-0032.

## Scope & Content Note

The 442<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club Collection has been organized into five series: General, Go For Broke Bulletin, National Archives Documents, Photographs, and Memorabilia.

The series “General” contains materials collected by the 442<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club documenting the activities of itself as well as the wartime activities of its members. Contents include materials relating to the major anniversaries of the 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team, the memoirs of the L Company, Chaplain Yamada’s Memoirs, and the G Company morning report. Materials are arranged alphabetically and reflect the original organization of the 442<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club.

The series “Go For Broke Bulletin” contains original copies of the quarterly newsletter of the 442<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club. The bulletins are arranged chronologically.

The series “National Archives Documents” contains copies of original items held at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. For the past 12 years, the 442<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club in Honolulu and the Japanese American Veterans Association have sponsored an ongoing project whereby volunteers copy documents located in the National Archives that relate to the activities of the 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team, the 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion, Military Intelligence Service (MIS), the 1399<sup>th</sup> Engineers, and other Japanese Americans serving in World War II.

The contents of the series “Photographs” have not been fully accessioned by the University of Hawaii Archives and therefore have not been inventoried or processed.

The series “Memorabilia” contains items donated by the 442<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club, which include a World War II U.S. Army “Eisenhower Jacket” worn by a member of the 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT. Also included in this series are a 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT shoulder patch (second design), a shoulder patch from the 34<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division (the “Red Bull” Division), and a metal ammunitions canister.

The finding aid and inventory to the 442<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club Collection will continue to be revised as new materials are added to the collection.

For additional information concerning the 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team, please see the Ted Tsukiyama Papers (AJA 002), the John Rademaker Papers (AJA 008), the Hideo Nakamine Papers (AJA 007), the Hiro Higuchi Papers (AJA 001), the Senator Spark M. Matsunaga Papers, and the Romanzo Adams Social Research Laboratory (RASRL) collection in the UH Archives & Manuscripts Department.

Related materials are also held in the 442<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club archives (Honolulu, HI), the Go For Broke National Education Center (Torrance, CA), the Saito Family Papers at the Japanese American National Museum (Los Angeles, CA), the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii (Honolulu, HI), the National Archives and Records Administration (College Park, MD), the U.S. Army Museum of Hawaii (Honolulu, Hawaii), and the Veterans History Project (Washington, D.C.).

## **Series Descriptions**

### **Series 1: General**

**Dates:** 1881-2001

**Size of Series:** 2.0 linear feet

**Physical Format:** Papers, photocopies, booklets, and a CD-ROM

**Arrangement:** Alphabetically by subject

#### **Description of Contents:**

Materials collected by the 442<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club documenting its own activities as well as the wartime activities of its members.

This series contains materials relating to the major anniversaries of the 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team as well as a variety of clippings relating to the activities of the 422<sup>nd</sup>. This series also includes the memoirs of the L Company, compiled in the 1990s; Chaplain Yamada's memoirs, covering his time at Camp Shelby during the 442<sup>nd</sup>'s training until his return home to Hawaii (1943-1945); and the G Company morning report, a type of report kept by all army units detailing its daily personnel changes. Materials are arranged alphabetically and reflect the original organization of the 442<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club.

## **Series 2: Go For Broke Bulletin**

**Dates:** 1961-2005

**Size of Series:** 2.5 linear feet

**Physical Format:** Newsletters

**Arrangement:** Chronological

### **Description of Contents:**

The *Go For Broke* bulletin, produced quarterly by the 442<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club, contains articles, obituaries, event lists, and news of interest to the club. Newsletters are arranged chronologically. Note: series does not contain a complete run of the newsletter; please see inventory for complete listing. The 442<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club archive contains a more complete run of the newsletter.

## **Series 3: National Archives Documents**

**Dates:** 1941-1946

**Size of Series:** 15 linear feet (as of August 2006)

**Physical Format:** Copies of documents from the National Archives, on paper and DVD

**Arrangement:** Arranged according to the Record Group, Box Number, and Folder Number assigned by the National Archives.

### **Description of Contents:**

The National Archives Documents in this series are copies of original items held at the National Archives in Washington, DC. For the past 12 years, the 442nd Veterans Club in Honolulu and the Japanese American Veterans Association have sponsored an ongoing project in which volunteers copy documents located in the National Archives that relate to the activities of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the 100th Infantry Battalion, Military Intelligence Service (MIS), the 1399th Engineers, and other Japanese Americans serving in World War II. The 442nd Veterans Club in Honolulu has provided a copy of the documents for the 442nd Veterans Club Collection at the University of Hawaii Archives & Manuscripts Department, allowing researchers to access valuable historical materials about Japanese American veterans without having to travel to the National Archives in Washington, D.C.

When the project began, volunteers made paper-based photocopies of the documents, but they began digitizing the documents in 2003. The photocopies are arranged according to the Record Group, Box Number, and Folder Number assigned to the original documents by the National Archives. More detailed information about each Record Group is available on the National Archives Guide to Federal Records, available on the web at:

<http://www.archives.gov/research/guide-fed-records/>.

**RG 80: General Records of the Department of the Navy, 1798-1947**

Includes materials from the Frank Knox files, such as the Pearl Harbor Report, and information on martial law in Hawaii. Also includes correspondence and items regarding the enlistment of Japanese Americans into the armed forces and other issues related to the treatment of Japanese Americans.

**RG 107: Records of the Office of the Secretary of War, 1791-1947**

Includes correspondence and materials from the Assistant Secretary of Defense and the Western Defense Command regarding exclusion orders, reports, permits, Japanese students and other related matters. Also included are correspondence, reports, and other materials from the Assistant Secretary of War concerning Japanese American enlistment, volunteers, selective service, training, martial law in Hawaii, inspection trips, the organization and training of the 442nd RCT and the 100th Battalion, comments from Japanese Americans, the MIS, the Japanese-American loyalty questionnaire, publicity, and other issues related to Japanese Americans.

**RG 112: Records of the Office of the Surgeon General (Army), 1775-1987  
(bulk 1818-1987)**

Includes a 100th Battalion unit history and narrative.

**RG 165: Records of the War Department General and Special Staffs [WDGS/WDSS],  
1860-1952 (bulk 1888-1948)**

Includes correspondence, reports, memos, and other documents regarding Japanese American volunteers and training, the Counter Intelligence Corps (CIC) and MIS Language Schools (MISLS), language training, the disposition of MISLS graduates, and MIS linguists in Okinawa. Materials from the Operations Division document publicity, training, status, and military assignments of the 100th Battalion and 442nd RCT, infantry unit strengths, troop movement projections, replacements, the evacuation of Japanese from Hawaii, and other issues regarding Japanese American soldiers.

**RG 208: Records of the Office of War Information [OWI], 1926-1951 (bulk 1941-1946)**

Includes correspondence, public relations materials, and other records from the Director of the Office of War Information regarding the enlistment of Japanese Americans, overseas broadcasts, censorship, discrimination, and other issues related to Japanese Americans.

**RG 247: Records of the Office of the Chief of Chaplains, 1902-1975**

Includes records documenting the military service of Chaplain George Aki, Chaplain Hiro Higuchi, Chaplain Masao Yamada, and Chaplain Israel Yost.

**RG 319: Records of the Army Staff, 1903-1996 (bulk 1948-1978)**

Includes narratives, interviews, writings, maps, and other records documenting the history and training of the MISLS, the activities of the Counter Intelligence Corps in the Pacific, the 34th Infantry Division, and military campaigns in Italy.

**RG 331: Records of Allied Operational and Occupation Headquarters, World War II, 1907-1966 (bulk 1942-1954)**

Includes records of the 6<sup>th</sup> Army group, such as battle participation awards and unit citation awards for the 100th Battalion and the 442nd RCT.

**RG 338: Records of the US Army Operational, Tactical, and Support Organizations (World War II and Thereafter), 1917-1993 (bulk 1940-1970)**

Includes general orders, correspondence, memos, reports, materials from the reading file of General Emmons, and other items documenting Japanese organizations in the US, public opinion towards Japanese Americans, loyalty investigations, internment camps and relocation, martial law in Hawaii, the Hawaii Territorial Guard, 5th and 7th Army awards, and unit citations and award recommendations for members of the 100th Battalion and 442nd RCT.

**RG 389: Records of the Office of the Provost Marshal General, 1941-, 1920-1975, 1991-1992 (bulk 1941-1975)**

Includes correspondence, reports, memos, press releases, and other materials concerning the induction of Japanese Americans into the military, the organization of the 442nd RCT, the return of Japanese Americans to the Western Defense Command, the employment of Japanese Americans, Japanese aliens from Hawaii, loyalty investigations, Japanese organizations in the US and Hawaii, the Japanese American Branch, selective service, exclusion orders, the MISLS, and other issues relating to the treatment of Japanese American civilians and soldiers.

**RG 407: Records of the Adjutant General's Office, 1917-[AGO], 1905-1981 (bulk 1917-1958)**

Includes reports, general orders, correspondence, memos, and other documents relating to unit citations and individual awards for members of the 100th Battalion and 442nd RCT, as well as historical narratives, operational reports, and general orders for the 34th, 36th, 44th, and 92nd Infantry divisions, and historical narratives, operational reports, and journals for the 442nd RCT.

There are also two DVDs containing scanned documents, but the Record Group, Box Number, and Folder Number are not available for these materials. Topics include monthly reports by the 442nd RCT Headquarters and general orders and memorandum issued by the United States Army. The monthly reports, dating from July 1944 through May 1946, provide a general overview of the 442nd RCT's activities. General orders and memorandums document troop movements, alerts, assumptions of command, inactivation, the awarding of medals, and parades. These documents are also available online on the University of Hawaii Library's Japanese American Veterans Collection website at:

<http://libweb.hawaii.edu/libdept/archives/mss/aja/nara/index.htm>.

## **Series 4: Photographs**

**Dates:** 1941-1946

**Size of Series:** 0.5 linear feet (as of August 2006)

**Physical Format:**

**Arrangement:**

**Description of Contents:**

This series has only been received in part by the University of Hawaii Archives & Manuscripts Dept. and therefore has not been inventoried or processed.

## **Series 5: Memorabilia**

**Dates:** 1943-1945

**Size of Series:** 3.0 linear feet

**Physical Format:** Artifacts

### **Arrangement:**

### **Description of Contents:**

Memorabilia donated by the 442<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club includes a World War II U.S. Army “Eisenhower Jacket” worn by a member of the 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT. The uniform is an example of a late issue U.S. Army olive drab dress service coat, referred to as an Eisenhower Jacket because it was created by General Dwight Eisenhower’s tailor to quell his dissatisfaction with the previous uniform design. Due to its comfort and versatility, it became standard issue. This example bears the 442<sup>nd</sup> shoulder patch and the 34<sup>th</sup> Division shoulder patch. The round brass collar denotes that the coat belonged to an enlisted man. The ribbon bars represent the campaigns in which the soldier participated. A Combat Infantry Badge located above the ribbon bar signifies that the soldier served in combat. The blue ribbon in the gold frame represents the Presidential Unit Citation that was awarded to the 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT. The chevrons on both sleeves indicate the rank of Sergeant. On the lower left sleeve, each gold bar represents six months of combat service overseas.

Also included in this series is a 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT shoulder patch (second design). The design of the first patch was rejected by the 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT as it depicted a yellow arm holding a bloody samurai sword in the foreground and a red and white bomb burst alluding to the bombing of Pearl Harbor in the background. A second design, the “Liberty Torch,” was developed by Mitch Miyamoto, an S-2 Sergeant of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion of the 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT, and approved by the Army on 16 December 1943.

There is another shoulder patch from the 34<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division (the “Red Bull” Division) as well; the 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion was assigned to the 34<sup>th</sup> Division in September 1943. Also included in the memorabilia is a metal ammunitions canister.