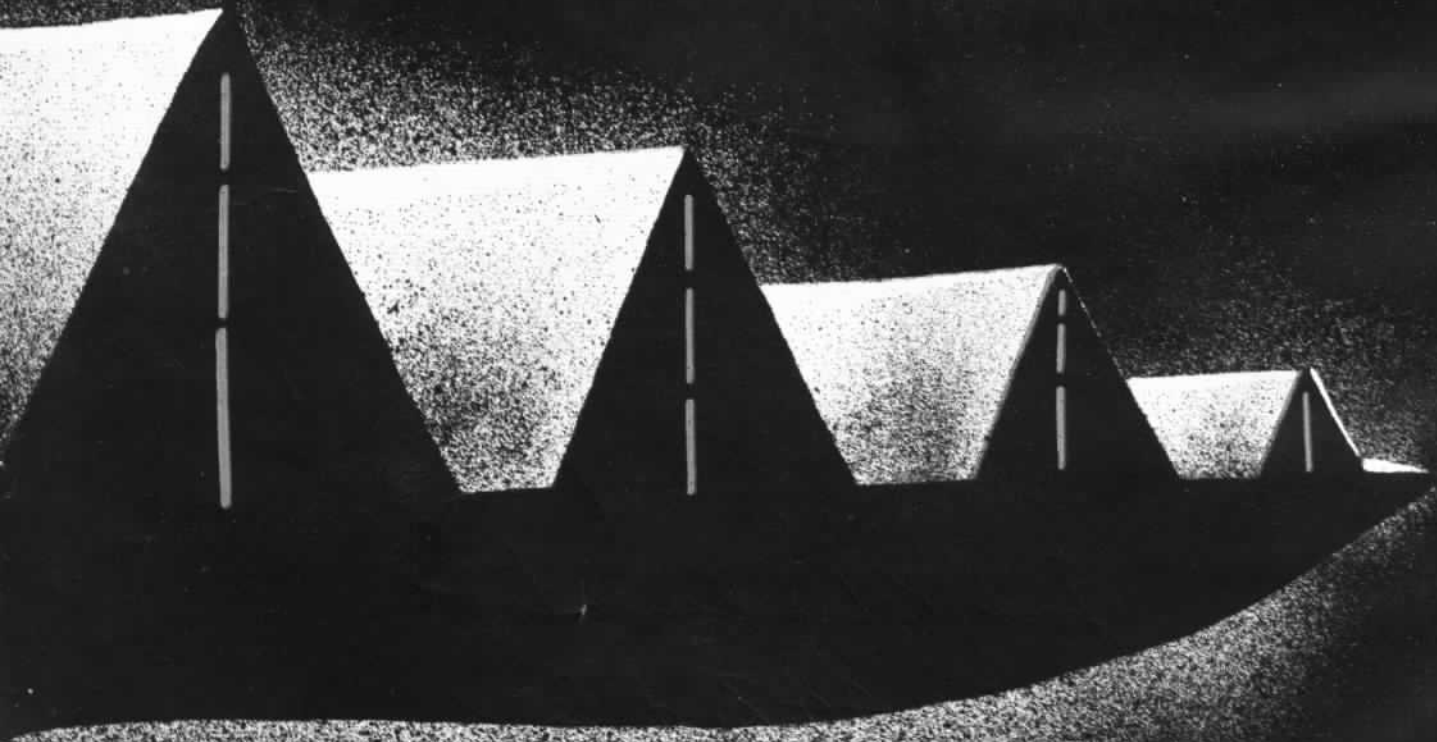




Name: Jack K Wakamatsu  
1st Co F 442nd Inf  
Camp Shelby, Miss

*The*  
442nd  
Combat Team ☆

*presents*



**THE**  
**Album**

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## THE CREED

*"I pledge allegiance to the  
flag of the United States of  
America, and to the republic  
for which it stands. One na-  
tion indivisible, for liberty,  
and justice for all."*







## DEDICATION

*To mothers and fathers; to sisters and brothers; to friends, sweethearts and wives; to those who gave us courage by hope and prayer; to those who gave the money which made possible the production of this book, we gratefully dedicate*  
**THE ALBUM.**



# HISTORY OF THE 442nd COMBAT TEAM

The 442nd Combat Team, made up of the 442nd Infantry, the 522nd Field Artillery Battalion, and the 232nd Engineers Company (combat), was activated on January 28, 1943, at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. Its full complement was achieved in April.

Col. C. W. Pence was designated as the Commanding Officer, Lt. Col. B. M. Harrison as commander of the Field Artillery Battalion, and Capt. P. Nakada to command the Engineers Company. This then is the brief history of the Combat Team.

On December 7, 1941, war was forced upon us by the treacherous attack on Pearl Harbor by Japan. We Americans were stunned by the "knife in the back." The Japanese-Americans throughout the United States petitioned for a chance to strike back at the Japs.

In Hawaii, many Japanese-Americans were in the services and others enlisted with the Territorial Guards. Those in the service were sent to the European Theater where their conduct was admirably praised. The men in the Territorial Guards were honorably discharged in February, 1942.

These men then organized the Varsity Victory Volunteers and offered to do whatever the Army wished. They worked under the direction of the army engineers. The job done, the V.V.V. were inactivated in January, 1943. In the meantime, the War Department had formulated a plan to organize a Japanese-American combat team.

Many Japanese-Americans on the mainland were called to the colors. But the wholesale evacuation of Japanese aliens and Japanese-Americans to relocation centers hindered the citizens from offering their services. When word came to these men that the War Department was planning a combat team of Japanese-Americans, many were ready to volunteer.

On January 28, 1943, the War Department called for volunteers for the combat team. The mainland quota was 3,000 and the Hawaii quota was 1,500. The Territory of Hawaii raised a total of 10,000 volunteers and so its quota was increased to 2,900 while the mainland quota was lowered proportionately to 1,500. The mainland volunteers were from the Pacific coast, the Rocky Mountain states, the midwest, and the eastern seaboard.

The history of the 442nd Combat Team is not complete. More will be written when this war is over. Having a fierce pride and love for our country, with a deep determination to wipe out the stigma of the hyphenated American name, and to be simply called Americans, we volunteers go forth to battle with the cry, "THE YANKS ARE COMING!"