

# **BATTLE CAMPAIGNS** *Excerpts from the 442nd Journals*

## **Rome to Arno, Campaign Part I**

### **June 9 - July 4, 1944**

**9 June** – Advance party left Bivouac at Anzio and arrived via Tarquina (Mole del Mignone) 2100 hours 9 June 44. Troops began to arrive via truck Convoy through Rome at 0130 10 June. Closed in (less 2nd Battalion) at 0330 11 June.

**10 June** – 442nd Regimental Combat Team attached to the 34th Infantry Division, per par 1, GO 44, Headquarters, 34th Infantry Division dated 12 Jun 1944.

**11 June** – 100th Infantry Battalion (Separate) attached 442nd Infantry Regiment 522nd Field Artillery Battalion (105mm How) attached 34th Division Artillery, 232nd Engineer Company attached 109th Engineer Battalion and the 206th Army Band attached Headquarters Company, 34th Infantry Division. All above attachments directed by Par 2, GO 44, Headquarters 34th Infantry Division, 12 June 1944.

**12 June** – The unit was visited by Major General Charles W. Ryder Company Commanding General 34th Division.

**15 June** - Training in Progress. Daily passes to Rome authorized for 10% of personnel.

**17 June** – 2nd Battalion joined the regiment, closing in at 1500.

**21 June** – Operational Instruction #45, Hq, 34th Infantry Division, dated 21 June, 1944 directed movement to new bivouac area near Grosseto. At 0300 21 June, the Combat Team began movement by truck Convoy to new assembly area and closed in at 0010 22 June. Brigadier General Sherman, Assistant Division Commander, visited assembly area at 0900 22 June.

**22 June** – Regimental Special Police Detachment organized.

**23 June** – First contact of 442nd Infantry with enemy troops occurred approximately 1600 21 June. Pfc H. Aramaki and Pfc I. Nakamura of Cannon Company, while acting as road guides at Sansano, took prisoners; three German Infantrymen (stragglers) turning them over to 34th Division MP's.

**24 June** – The combat team moved out via truck Convoy to new assembly area via Gravasanno. CP at new area opened 0930. At the same hour two POW's were taken by 1st Sgt. James Sakamoto and Sgt. Yano of Antitank Company who came upon them resting in a Concealed location at the new assembly area. The prisoners offered no resistance. The prisoners were Turkomen, members of the East Asian (Turkestan) organization. Their clothing was torn and dirty; but they appeared well nourished, were not wounded and were apparently stragglers.

**25 June** – On this day the regiment made an approach march of 15 miles to a position immediately behind the front lines and was scheduled to take over on the following day. First elements departed bivouac at Gravasanno approximately 0945, last elements close 1845. Artillery was being fired overhead. Visit of Major General Ryder with final instructions re: the following day's operations. The basic plan was to have 2nd and 3rd Battalions jump off with the 100th Infantry Battalion in reserve, forward elements to pass thru the 142 Infantry Regiment and 517 Parachute

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Infantry Regiment at 0600 26 June.

**25-26 June** – In the vicinity of Belvedere, Suvereto, and 3rd Battalion relieved the 517 Parachute Infantry. 2nd Battalion relieved the elements of 142nd Infantry. 100th Battalion was in reserve. 2nd Battalion LD at 0630 and engaged the enemy at 0830. 3rd Battalion attacked the left of the 2nd Battalion at 0900 and drove beyond Suvereto.

After driving 1500 yards, both battalions met with fierce enemy resistance. 2nd Battalion was hard pressed with direct artillery fire. F Company received the brunt of the attack. The enemy was countered with mortar fire.

The 100th Battalion attacked to the northwest of Belvedere and turned north to Sassetta waiting for the 2nd and 3rd Battalions to advance toward them. The 2nd and 3rd Battalions attacked abreast; and the enemy was assaulted, receiving great damages and sustained heavy losses. The ruminant of the enemy disbursed and the others were captured.

The enemy losses were as follows: 178 KIA, 20 WIA and 86 captured. The material damages were significant, including 8-trucks, 19- jeeps, 13- motorcycles, 2- anti-tank guns, 3- self-propelled guns, 2-tanks, 2- Command cars, 2- ½ track, an 81mm mortar, ammunitions and supplies, as well as one Command post complete.

**26 June** – First day of combat. The regiment left the assembly area and moved up at 0400. The objective was to push along the road leading through and beyond Survereto. Belvedere Fighting was continuous throughout the day, losses suffered, prisoners taken; and by night the position of the forward element was approximately 267985. The towns of Survereto and Belvedere were cleared out and our strength was astride and road immediately south of Sassetta.

Early in the day while on forward reconnaissance, the armored car of General Ryder and the jeep of Colonel Pence were attacked and captured by the Germans and later recovered by our units.

During the day, the 100th Infantry Battalion cleaned out the town of Belvedere reporting 50 enemy killed. The battalion took 50 prisoners and the following enemy material; one-tank, eight-jeep, two amphibious jeeps, one-105-mm gun one-CP intact and two-motorcycles.

Further report on first day's action as follows: Company F engaged enemy forces at 1130 26 June. We received direct fire from German 88mm gun and three M-4 tanks, 2 EM KIA, 10 EM WIA and 12 MIA. Engagement ceased at 1800 and engaged with approximately one company of enemy infantry.

Company E attacked and captured Hill 1040700. Company G relieved 2nd Battalion, 142 Infantry, gained objective, Hill 101 at 0130. Moving along both sides of Massaro River, we met resistance at the Junction of Lodama and Massaro at 1230.

## **Our KIA loss for 25 June, 1944**

442 AT Pfc. Iwahiro, Robert K.      Waipahu, HI

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## **Our KIA losses for the 26th day of June 1944**

|                                 |                 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| 442 2Hq Cpt. Ensminger, Ralph B | Honolulu, HI    |
| 442 2Hq Pvt. Hirano, Robert R   | Waikapu, HI     |
| 442 F Pfc. Hiraoka, Satoru      | Hanamaulu, HI   |
| 442 I Pfc. Kameda, Fred Y       | Waialua, HI     |
| 2Hq Pfc. Kami Misuo             | Hilo, HI        |
| 442 Hq Pvt. Luna, Hidio         | Hilo, HI        |
| 442 F S/Sgt. Masuda, Dick Z     | Stockton, CA    |
| 442 F Pfc. Muranaga, Kiyoshi K  | Los Angeles, CA |
| 100 B S/Sgt. Nagaji, Kazutomu G | Honolulu, HI    |
| 100 A Pfc. Ogomori, Yoshio W    | Kekaha, HI      |
| 100 D Pfc. Tanaka, Matsusaburo  | Seattle WA      |
| 442 2Hq Pvt. Wasano, Shigeo     | Paia, HI        |

**27 June** - The plan for the 2nd day operations was to follow artillery fire into Sassetta, with the 100th Infantry Battalion leading and the 3rd Battalion on its left, with the 2nd Battalion coming up in reserve. The units were to reorganize North of Sassetta for further attack. The regiment cleaned out Sassetta against stiff resistance and pushed on. The regimental CP moved up to approximately 3 miles South of Sassetta at 1145. Antitank Company reported two enemy tanks destroyed South of Sassetta.

On the 28<sup>th</sup>, the 2nd Battalion pushed through and beyond the 3rd Battalion, left of the road between Sassetta and Castegnetta. The 100th continued and took the road junction North of Sassetta at 0910, reach Al Grillo at 1620 and the stream at 275060. The 2nd Battalion reached its objective, the stream junction 262061. Fighting was Continuous throughout the day.

**27-29 June** - A strong motorized reconnaissance patrol was sent out on Division order, consisting of two rifle platoons, one machine gun section, and one 81mm mortar section. This patrol operated with the 34th Division Reconnaissance troops to Casale and Guardistallo. At approximately 0800 the 135th Infantry passed through our lines. At 0950 the 3rd Battalion was ordered to Monteverdi where they maintained a roadblock supported by Cannon Company. During the day, the 100th Infantry and 2nd Battalions moved by foot to the vicinity of Bibbona and bivouacked. On the 30<sup>th</sup>, the 100th Infantry and 2nd Battalion were at the assembly area near Bibbona.

The 3rd Battalion was released from its roadblock and closed in on the assembly area at 0050 1 July. The combat patrol returned approximately 0840, reporting slight contact with the enemy and no casualties. During the day the enemy counter attacked the 133rd Infantry near Cecina. Enemy artillery fire fell in the assembly area. The regiment was alerted for a half-hour movement, but the counter attack was checked later in the day and the 442nd was not called up.

## **Our KIA losses for the 28th day of June 1944**

|                                    |                  |
|------------------------------------|------------------|
| 442 K 1st Lt. Burt, Howard         | unknown hometown |
| 442 L 2nd Lt. Frizmeier, Fred H    | Wisconsin        |
| 442 I S/Sgt. Ganeko, Seikichi      | Kapaa, HI        |
| 442 Cannon Pfc. Matsumoto, Kiyuchi | Papaikou, HI     |

# BATTLE CAMPAIGNS *Excerpts from the 442nd Journals*

|       |                         |                |
|-------|-------------------------|----------------|
| 100 C | Pvt. Matsumoto, Sadao   | Olaa, HI       |
| 442 K | Pfc. Matsushita, Shizuo | Maulua, HI     |
| 442 I | Pvt. Miyamoto, Yasuo R  | Pahala, HI     |
| 442 K | 1st Sgt. Takemoto, Tami | Clatskanie, OR |
| 442 I | Pfc. Watanabe, Hiroshi  | Honolulu, HI   |
| 442 K | Pvt. Yamaura, Gordon    | Seattle WA     |

## **Our KIA loss for the 29th day of June 1944**

442 2Hq Pfc. Kimura, Tsuguo Hilo, HI

## **Our KIA loss for the 2nd day of July 1944**

442 M Pfc. Kato, Kenji Kohala, HI

**3 July** – The attack was resumed at 0750; the position of the battalions being the same as on the previous day, the 100th on the left, 2nd Battalion on the right with the 3rd Battalion in reserve. Heavy enemy shelling continued. By 1600 3 July our advance elements were about 8 kilometers north of Cecina River in the center of the division sector, with the 135th and 168th Infantry Regiments flanking on the left and right, respectively. On this day 2nd Battalion occupied the town of Molino A Ventoabbto (II Terriccio), attacked and took Hill 287 and Hill 277 to the north of the town. The regiment had tank and tank destroyer support from Company C, the 752nd Tank Battalion, the 804th Tank Destroyer Battalion, and direct artillery support from 522nd Field Artillery Battalion.

**4 July** – On the nights of 3-4 July, 3rd Battalion passed through the 100th Infantry and took over the left sector of the regimental front. On the 4th, at approximately 1500 hours, Lt. Colonel Miller, regimental executive officer, assumed command of the 3rd Battalion. On the 4th, enemy resistance continued from prepared positions on Hill 140. These positions were reportedly built by the Todt Labor Organization and withstood the heaviest shelling of our artillery. This situation remained static during the 4th, 5th and 6<sup>th</sup>, as our battalions fought for the high ground. The towns of Rosignano on the left and Castelina, on the right, were German strong points from which they had excellent observation and directed heavy artillery fire. All along the 34th Division sector the fighting was severe and resistance the strongest since the 442nd entered the line on 26 June.

## **Our KIA losses for the 3rd day of July 1944**

|       |                                |                |
|-------|--------------------------------|----------------|
| 442 F | T/Sgt. Akiyama, Zentarō George | Sacramento, CA |
| 442 H | 2nd Lt. Crone, William         | Baltimore, MD  |
| 100 A | 2nd Lt. Ebata, Tetsu T         | Koloa, HI      |
| 100 C | Pfc. Hayashi, Robert           | Honolulu, HI   |
| 100 A | Sgt. Miyabe, Charles           | Honolulu, HI   |

## **Our KIA losses for the 4th day of July 1944**

|       |                          |                 |
|-------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| 442 G | Pfc. Enomoto, Kaname     | Waipahu, HI     |
| 442 L | Pfc. Hashimoto, Denis M  | Honolulu, HI    |
| 442 E | Pvt. Iida, George U      | Seattle, WA     |
| 442 G | Pfc. Nakamura, William K | Seattle, WA     |
| 442 G | Pfc. Sakado, Masuto      | Laupahoehoe, HI |

# **BATTLE CAMPAIGNS** *Excerpts from the 442nd Journals*

|       |                          |                 |
|-------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| 442 G | Pfc. Sakohira, Todd T    | Fowler, CA      |
| 442 L | Pvt. Taira, Masaru       | Honolulu, HI    |
| 442 L | Pfc. Takayama, John N    | Onomea, HI      |
| 442 G | 2nd Lt. Tanahashi, Kei   | Los Angeles, CA |
| 442 L | Sgt. Tanaka, Jiro        | Makaweli, HI    |
| 442 D | Pvt. Tatsumi, George     | Seattle, WA     |
| 442 L | Pfc. Tengan, Masau       | Koloa, HI       |
| 442 L | Pfc. Tokusato, Hidetoshi | Waiakeauka, HI  |
| 442 G | S/Sgt. Toma, Tsugiyasu   | Hilo, HI        |
| 442 E | Pfc. Tomikawa, Calvin T  | Honolulu, HI    |
| 442 I | Pfc. Toyama, Shinsuke    | Puunene, HI     |
| 442 G | Sgt. Urabe, Howard M.    | Kapaa, HI       |

# BATTLE CAMPAIGNS *Excerpts from the 442nd Journals*

## Rome to Arno, Campaign II July 6, 1944 - July 13, 1944

**6 July** – On the 6<sup>th</sup>, the 100th Battalion went back to the line, relieving the 2nd Battalion which was withdrawn to an assembly area northwest of Molino A Ventaobbto. On the 6th of July, the 3rd Battalion attacked and took the ridge at R. Vallori despite 88mm, automatic and mortar fire. Company L advanced to 197297. Regimental forward CP was established at Molino A Ventoabbto. The mountainous country and poor roads made supply difficult, and mules were brought up for use as a pack train, and carried ammunitions, rations and water over the ridges north of the town into the lines.

The 206th Army Band, a Component of the 442nd Combat Team, was designated as the 206th Army Ground Forces Band effective 27 June 1944 per Sec V. GO 105, Headquarter Fifth Army, and 22 June 1944.

### Our KIA losses for the 6th day of July 1944

|                  |                            |                 |
|------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| 442 E            | Sgt. Chinen, Jenhatsu      | Helemano, HI    |
| 100D             | Pvt. Onodera, Satoru       | Seattle WA      |
| 442 I            | Pfc. Sakamoto, Noboru      | Honolulu, HI    |
| 100th Med Tech-4 | Sawada, George K           | Seattle, WA     |
| 442 E            | Pfc. Yoshihara, Toraichi   | Kapaa, HI       |
| 442 F            | Pfc. Arikawa, Frank N      | Los Angeles, CA |
| 442 E            | Pfc. Fujikawa, Masaki      | Makalapa, HI    |
| 442 G            | Pfc. Goya, Kazuo           | Waiakeauka, HI  |
| 442 G            | Pvt. Hisano, Masao         | Lahaina, HI     |
| 442 G            | Pvt. Ito, Tetsuo           | Honolulu, HI    |
| 442 L            | Pfc. Kashiwaeda, Kenneth G | Honolulu, HI    |
| 442 G            | Pvt. Kikuchi, Leo T        | Sebastopol, CA  |
| 442 G            | Pfc. Kimura, Matsuichi     | Honolulu, HI    |
| 442 F            | Pvt. Kyono, John H         | Salem, OR       |
| 232 Eng          | Sgt. Matsumoto, Dick Y     | Honolulu, HI    |
| 442 F            | Pvt. Misumi, Tom T         | Oakland, CA     |
| 442 G            | Pfc. Niide, Shigeto        | Pepeekeo, HI    |
| 442 G            | Pfc. Okamoto, Tomiso       | Wailuku, HI     |
| 442 E            | S/Sgt. Oyakawa, Francis K  | Honolulu, HI    |
| 442 G            | Pfc. Sameshima, George S   | Salinas, CA     |
| 442 E            | Pfc. Shintani, Takeo       | Kahuku, HI      |
| 442 F            | Pfc. Tokunaga, Clifford, T | Honolulu, HI    |
| 100 D            | Pvt. Yasuda, Joe R         | Santa Rosa, CA  |

**7 July** – Very slow progress continued throughout the 7th. Prisoners taken belonged to the 36th SS Regiment and reported that they had orders to hold the line until defenses at Pisa had been completed. The terrain continued to be mountainous and difficult to attack. The enemy was dug in, and the Infantry had to go in with grenades and bayonets. Night fighting was frequent because darkness offered protection to our troops as they advanced across the open valleys.

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Combat patrols went out continually. A typical patrol action: On the night of the 6 July a squad of Company E on patrol intercepted a German Platoon in the darkness at a point blank range (5 yards), inflicted heavy casualties and withdrew.

## Our KIA losses for the 7th day of July 1944

|                                   |                 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 442 Cannon Cpl. Aoyama, Yoshiharu | Los Angeles, CA |
| 100 C Pfc. Hiramatsu, Kazuo L     | Waiialua, HI    |
| 100 C Pfc. Masuda, Yoshito        | Waiakoa, HI     |
| 442 K Pfc. Ogata, Benjamin F      | Texas           |
| 442 K Pfc. Ohki, Arnold           | Livingston, CA  |
| 442 K Pfc. Saito, Calvin T        | Los Angeles, CA |
| 442 K Pfc. Takayama, Yoshita J    | Onomea, HI      |
| 100 D S/Sgt. Takeo, Robert M      | Honolua, HI     |
| 442 G Pfc. Yagi, Steve S          | Lahaina, HI     |

**8 July** – The 3rd Battalion occupied **Hill 140**. On the 9th, the 2nd Battalion relieved the 3rd at 2300 hours - Secretary of War Stinson visited the Fifth Army forward area and the 100th Infantry Battalion was represented in the guard of honor.

Lt. Colonel Alfred Pursall assumed command of the 3rd Battalion. On the same day the 100th Infantry Battalion reported 20 dead Germans, 22 prisoners, and one Mark IV tank knocked out by bazooka fire.

## Our KIA losses for the 8th day of July 1944

|                             |                    |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| 442 L Pvt. Furuuchi, Misuo  | Papaikou, HI       |
| 442 G Pfc. Numa, Toshio     | Keilia, HI         |
| 442 L Sgt. Oba, Masayoshi   | Lahaina, HI        |
| 442 L Pvt. Yoshida, Kenjiro | St. Petersburg, FL |

**9 July** – Coordinated attack by entire division. The 3rd Battalion, on the regimental left, advanced to grid coordinate 195325 on the road running west of Casale; and the 100<sup>th</sup>, on the right, reached the outskirts of Casale. Both battalions faced determined resistance: the Germans used their favoring terrain to full advantage. A map taken from a dead German indicated that they had every hill, house and terrain feature zeroed-in from prepared gun positions; with azimuth readings, ranges and fields of fire elaborately developed. This knowledge was possible because of their long occupation of the ground, and they were defending. To offset this slightly, our forces had occasional help from Italian Partisans as to enemy emplacements and minefields.

## Our KIA losses for the 9th day of July 1944

|                                   |                 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 100 A Pfc. Doi, Haru              | Honolulu, HI    |
| 100 C Pfc. Higa, Eddie K          | Pepeekeo, HI    |
| 442 L Sgt. Iida, Martin M         | Kilauea, HI     |
| 442 G Pfc. Kamatani, Shinobu      | Waikoa Kula, HI |
| 100 C S/Sgt. Konoshita, Francis T | Seattle, WA     |

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|                                    |                    |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 100 B Pfc. Koda, Kiichi            | Waipahu, HI        |
| 442 Med Tech 5 Kuboyama, Mitsuharu | Wahiawa, HI        |
| 100 C, Pfc. Matsui, Masao          | Spreckelsville, HI |
| 100 A S/Sgt. Murakami, Toshio S    | Wailuku, HI        |
| 100 B Pfc. Nakazato, Saburo B      | Hakalau, HI        |
| 100 C T/Sgt. Sadayasu, Herbert K   | Honolulu, HI       |
| 442 I Sgt. Tamashiro, Thomas T     | Koloa, HI          |
| 100 C Pfc. Tomita, Isami           | Paia, HI           |

**10 July** – The attack was continued by the 2nd and 100th Battalions to secure ground in the vicinity of the 34 Grid line north of Casale. The 2nd Battalion reached and occupied Hill 147 with the 100th abreast in the regimental zone. During the day, the town of Casale was occupied by the 168th Infantry on the right flank of the 442nd Combat team.

## **Our KIA losses for the 10th day of July 1944**

|                           |             |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| 100 C Pfc. Akiyama, Hideo | Eleele, HI  |
| 100 C Pfc. Kihachiro J    | Wailuku, HI |

**11 July** – The regimental assault battalions attacked during the night of 10-11 July and moved about 1000 yards. During the 11th the 2nd Battalion remained in the vicinity of Hill 147, subjected to heavy shelling, which also struck in the 3rd Battalion reserve area and caused casualties.

Twenty-five officer replacements were obtained from division and were sent immediately into combat as the officer strength of the line companies had been seriously depleted. In all, the 100th and 3rd Battalions to date have suffered approximately 400 killed and wounded. Replacements of EM are not available. Despite these losses, the lack of replacements and the exhaustion of three weeks of front line combat, morale remains high. The enemy is being driven from his positions day by day and is taking appreciable heavier losses in personnel and equipment. To date, about 200 prisoners have been taken since the drive began. The division is nearing its immediate objective, the seaport of Leghorn.

## **Our KIA losses for the 11th day of July 1944**

|                                |              |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| 442 E Pfc. Asami, Kenneth I    | Honolulu, HI |
| 442 I Pfc. Hiraoka, Genichi W  | Kaneohe, HI  |
| 442 F Sgt. Iguchi, Kiyoshi     | Waipio, HI   |
| 442 M S/Sgt. Kajikawa, Tsugito | Kohala, HI   |
| 442 E S/Sgt. Karimoto, Haruo   | Kokoki, HI   |
| 442 Med Pvt. Nishikawa, Akio   | Paia, HI     |
| 100 D Pfc. Yamashita, Kazuo    | Waimea, HI   |

**12 July** - The 2nd Battalion attacked the ridge southwest of Mo Dei Rotini with F Company on the left, G on the right and E in reserve. The ridge was taken and held. At the same time the 100th Battalion reached the town of Pastina (Rotini) and cleared it out in house-to-house fighting. On that night the 3rd Battalion relieved the 100th Battalion, completed the occupation of Pastina, and continued the advance.



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## Our KIA losses for the 12th day of July 1944

|       |                          |                    |
|-------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 442 G | Pfc. Fujii, Masao        | Honolulu, HI       |
| 442 H | Pfc. Fujikawa, Jitsuro   | Hilo, HI           |
| 442 F | Pvt. Hana, Clifford      | Lake Placid, NY    |
| 442 H | S/Sgt. Hanaumi, Richard  | Papaikou, HI       |
| 442 G | Sgt. Harada, Charles K   | Honolulu, HI       |
| 442 G | S/Sgt. Higashi, James T  | Pahala, HI         |
| 442 G | Pfc. Jichaku, Thomas T   | Kapaa, HI          |
| 100 B | Pfc. Kajiwara, Nobuo     | Oakland, CA        |
| 442 H | Pvt. Kunimatsu, Isamu    | Anacortes, WA      |
| 442 G | S/Sgt. Matsukawa, Isamie | Salt Lake City, UT |
| 442 H | Pvt. Mizukami, William S | Auburn, WA         |
| 442 E | Pvt. Morikawa, Haruto    | Hilo, HI           |
| 100 A | Pfc. Morisaki, Harold H  | Honolulu, HI       |
| 442 F | Sgt. Nagami, Hiroshi     | Pepeekeo, HI       |
| 442 F | S/Sgt. Nakamoto, Joe K   | Lahaina, HI        |
| 442 F | Pfc. Nakamura, Tadao     | Pahoa, HI          |
| 442 F | Pfc. Ogawa, Sadao        | Eleele, HI         |
| 442 H | Sgt. Sugiyama, Togo S    | Los Angeles, CA    |
| 100 C | 1st Lt. Takagi, Boon E   | New York, NY       |
| 442 F | Pfc. Tomita, Hiroichi    | Wailuku, HI        |

**13 July** - Beyond the Pastina area, resistance temporarily lightened, as the enemy withdrew approximately 10 kilometers all along the line; and the 2nd and 3rd Battalions made considerable progress during the day. The town of San Luce was taken by the 3rd Battalion who bivouacked there during the night of 13-14 July and pulled out into the hills again 0500 14 July; where once again, the enemy fought for the ground. The 3rd Battalion passed north of San Luce, worked along the road and turned northwest following the regimental sector. The 2nd Battalion took Hill 157 and the town of Pieve Di S Luce, which was found extensively mined and booby-trapped. The 3rd Battalion reached road junction at 194436 where it was relieved during the night by a battalion of 168th Infantry.

## Our KIA loss for the 13th day of July 1944

|       |                       |            |
|-------|-----------------------|------------|
| 442 E | Pfc. Toyota, Shichizo | Gilroy, CA |
|-------|-----------------------|------------|

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## Rome to Arno, Campaign Part III July 14, 1944 - August 5, 1944

**14 July** – The Anti-Tank Company, 442nd Combat Team, was relieved of assignment and attachment with the regiment, was assigned to AFHQ, and attached to the Seventh Army for training. Its movement to the area of Galeria was directed.

The 100th Infantry Battalion was in Division reserve, with its Able Company maintaining a road block.

### Our KIA losses for the 14th day of July 1944

|       |                         |              |
|-------|-------------------------|--------------|
| 442 F | Pfc. Anzai, James H     | Waipahu, HI  |
| 100 B | Pfc. Ikeda, William Y   | Paia, HI     |
| 442 L | Pfc. Kawaguchi, John R  | Seattle WA   |
| 442 G | Pvt. Kawakami, Tetsuro  | Wailuku, HI  |
| 442 L | Pfc. Kojima, Tadashi    | Papaikou, HI |
| 442 L | Sgt. Kuba, Shigeo       | Honokaa, HI  |
| 442 L | Pfc. Morishita, Takeo   | Honolulu, HI |
| 442 L | Pvt. Shigihara, Takeshi | Puunene, HI  |
| 442 L | Pfc. Oshimura, Saburo   | Pearl HI     |

**15 July** – The 2nd Battalion made another night attack on 14-15 July, reached Hill 104, and kept going at 0500 15 July. 1st and 2nd Platoons of Cannon Company, attached to the 2nd Battalion, fired 339 rounds in support of the battalion. The 3rd Battalion remained in support behind the 2nd Battalion until the night of 15-16, when it once again took over the front line, with the 2nd in reserve. Charlie Company of the 100th Infantry established another road block.

A party of five swimmers was dispatched to participate in the Fifth Army Swimming Meet in Rome.

### Our KIA losses for the 15th day of July 1944

|       |                        |                   |
|-------|------------------------|-------------------|
| 442 E | Pfc. Chinen, Giichi    | Haiku, HI         |
| 100 C | Pfc. Nishi, Takanori   | San Francisco, CA |
| 100 A | Pfc. Nishitani, Chieto | Kohala, HI        |
| 442 G | Pfc. Okazaki, Isao     | Seattle, WA       |
| 442 G | S/Sgt. Otani, Kazuo    | Visalia, CA       |
| 442 H | Pfc. Yamamoto, John T  | Oceanside, CA     |

**16 July** – The 3rd Battalion began its drive on Luciano, with the 2nd Battalion abreast on its left. The 100th Battalion was engaged in hard fighting to maintain road blocks on the extreme left of the regimental sector. Companies A and C were particularly involved on the road that generally ran along the 14th grid.

The fighting at Luciano was bitter hand-to-hand conflict. The enemy was barricaded and

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supported by several tanks and automatic weapons. Because of the close nature of fighting, our artillery could not be brought into full play; however, it swept the roads beyond Luciano and made enemy withdraw costly. Company K was the leading element in the attack on the town and after a night and day of street fighting finally won the town. The 2nd Battalion meanwhile attacked and seized Hill 108, while the 100th Battalion was pushing road blocks up to the west of Cognole. The 100th Battalion found the area heavily mined.

On the 17th, Division announced a quota of three Guest Officers and one duty Officer, and 40 EMs for the Rest Center at Rome from 19-23 July, and arrangements were made to fill the quota from the line companies.

## **Our KIA losses for the 12th day of July 1944**

|                                  |                 |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 442 3Hq S/Sgt. Shimatsu, Akira R | Los Angeles, CA |
| 442 K Pvt. Taketa, Jimmie Y      | Washington      |

**17 July** – At 2400 hours, found the regiment after a hard day with all three battalions committed in the following position: On the right, the 3rd Battalion had cleared out the last remaining resistance in Luciano; the 2nd Battalion in the center was advancing on the left of the regimental zone.

## **Our KIA losses for the 17th day of July 1944**

|                                |               |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| 442 F Pfc. Kojaku, Shaw        | Gardena, CA   |
| 442 K T/Sgt. Sakamoto, Atsushi | San Pedro, CA |
| 442 F Pfc. Yamashita, Setsuro  | Seattle, WA   |

**18 July** – The 2nd and 3rd Battalions continued the advance northwest, with the 3rd Battalion reaching the town of Terretta and the 2nd Battalion cutting the road southwest of that locality. Resistance was lighter, as the enemy was withdrawing to positions before Pisa. The seaport town of Leghorn fell to elements of the 135th and 363rd Infantry regiments, with the positioning of the 442nd Combat team protecting their right flank. Leghorn (Livorno), the third largest peace-time port of Italy, was a main objective of the fifth Army drive and after reconstruction will provide a major base for future operations.

The 100th Infantry was detached from the 442nd Infantry and attached to the 135th Infantry, and moved into Leghorn.

## **Our KIA loss for the 18th day of July 1944**

|                                 |            |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| 442 K S/Sgt. Shibata, Kenneth K | Haybro, Co |
|---------------------------------|------------|

**19 July** – The 2nd and 3rd Battalions took up defensive positions around Muova and Colle Salvetti, establishing an outpost line and sending out patrols, as far as the Arno River. With the fall of Leghorn and the withdrawal of the Germans past the Arno, the Fifth Army had reached another main enemy defensive line, the so-called Gothic Line. It is known that this line is established on high ground, is fortified in depth, and laterally follows the Arno River.

# BATTLE CAMPAIGNS *Excerpts from the 442nd Journals*

During the 19th and 20<sup>th</sup>, the regiment remained in position with the battalions occasionally subjected to harassing artillery fire. Combat-reconnaissance patrols were sent out continuously, reconnoitering the ground between the lines and feeling out the enemy positions. On one of its patrols, a squad from the 2nd Battalion met Lt Gen Clark, Commanding General, Fifth army, who personally congratulated the men of the fine work of the 442nd Combat Team.

## **Our KIA losses for the 12th day of July 1944**

|       |                       |             |
|-------|-----------------------|-------------|
| 442 I | Pfc. Matsuda, Carl G  | Honaunau    |
| 442 I | Pfc. Sato, Yukio      | Seattle, WA |
| 442 I | Pfc. Shiomichi, Joe A | Brawley, CA |

**21 July** - Major General Charles L. Bolte assumed command of the 34th Infantry Division, relieving Major General Ryder.

The main body of troops set up a MLR on Highway 67 on the 21st, while patrols ventured beyond that point to the outskirts of Pisa.

A patrol composed of Lt. Gilbert, Lt. Androvette, and 12 volunteer EM from Company I, set out for Pisa at **2300 20 July 1944**, with a partisan guide. Their reconnaissance took them across the canals below the Arno and behind the enemy lines to the northern edge of Pisa. A report that the Germans were evacuating Pisa was found to be untrue. Enemy gun positions and troops were observed, and additional information was obtained from partisans as to the disposition of enemy troops and the location of mine fields. The information was communicated to Division upon return of the Patrol at approximately 1200 hours 22 July. The patrol was for reconnaissance purpose only behind the enemy lines and did not involve itself with enemy forces, although at one time the patrol was in the second floor of a partisan's house while Germans entered and occupied the ground floor. The patrol returned intact. All members are being recommended for citation.

Two patrols from G Company also reached the outskirts of Pisa on the 21st. The first patrol, led by Lt. Boyd, with 20 EM and a "300" radio, reconnoitered as far as the airport south of Pisa, and then sent a three-man patrol forward into the southern edge of the town. Before reaching their objective, the patrol was under artillery fire and was engaged in a brief skirmish. This patrol was in radio contact with a similar patrol led by Lt. Bianco, also with 20 EMs. Both patrols had difficulty in crossing the canals, which they did by fording waist deep through the shallow ones, and crossing the others on improvised rafts. The patrols met at the airport and returned at midnight, having been gone approximately 23 hours. Information was obtained as to the condition of roads and enemy strength. All members of both patrols were being recommended for commendations in Division orders. 21-2

## **Our KIA loss for the 21st day of July 1944**

|       |                       |              |
|-------|-----------------------|--------------|
| 442 I | Pfc. Arakawa, James Y | Honolulu, HI |
|-------|-----------------------|--------------|

**22 July** – On the night of 22-23 July, a welcome relief passed through the lines and took over the 2nd and 3rd positions. The 135th Infantry relieved the 2nd Battalion and 133th relieved the 3rd

# BATTLE CAMPAIGNS

Excerpts from the 442nd Journals

Battalion. The 442nd Combat team went into Division reserve, and thus ended the first phase of Combat operations for the Regimental Combat Team.

On the 22nd the regiment remained in Division reserve in the vicinity of Coylle Salvetti, and on the 23rd moved back to a rest area north of Cecina.

The 100th Infantry Battalion was cited for outstanding performance of duty in action in the vicinity of Belvedere and Sassetta, Italy, on the **26th and 27th of June 1944**, per GO 121, Hq 5th Army, **18 July 1944**. The citation entitles the battalion to carry Distinguished Unit streamers on its colors and guidons and individual members to wear the Distinguished Unit Badge.

At the Conclusion of this Combat period, the following Communications are quoted: Letter from Major General Charles L. Bolte, Commanding General, 34th Infantry Division.

**25 July** - To Commanding Officer, 442nd Regimental Combat Team:

*“Although your command had been attached to this Division for only a short time, it was during this period that your officers and men received their baptism of fire. Their enthusiasm and fighting spirit exceeded expectation: the Division has accepted them unreservedly and considers them an integral part of the Division.*

*In token of this acceptance and the esteem in which your officers and men are held there is presented to you the shoulder patch of the 34th Division for all of the officers and men of the 442nd Regimental Combat Infantry, 522 Field Artillery Battalion, 232nd Engineer Company and the 206th Army Band.”*

Memorandum from Commanding Officer, 442nd RCT, Colonel C. W. Pence, to all officers and men of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, dated 26 July 1944:

*“Upon completion of our first tour of combat duty, I believe it is appropriate to relate to all of you some of the accomplishment of the unit. You have been of material assistance in driving the enemy back more than fifty miles.*

*During this action you have never taken a backward step. You have stood firm under heavy shell and mortar fire and have beaten off every enemy counterattack.*

*You have captured and killed many Germans, destroyed and captured much enemy material which, in reality, is our mission in war.”*

*On the last day of combat the Division Commander stated to me, “Your unit has done a splendid job, and yesterday we were privileged to wear the insignia of the division, whose long, successful combat record is surpassed by no other division.*

*We have lost several of our comrades in combat. We mourn their losses and honor their memory. For the rest of us there is the work of tomorrow.*

*I am proud of you and I am honored to be your Commander.”*

# BATTLE CAMPAIGNS *Excerpts from the 442nd Journals*

## **Our KIA loss for the 23rd day of July 1944**

442 M Pvt. Hirayama, Yasuo                      Hilo, HI

**24 July** – Rest period begun. All personnel enjoyed hot showers and an exchange of clothing. Arms, equipment and vehicles were cleaned and overhauled. Duffle bags came out of storage. A week of athletics was planned, together with swimming and special Service recreation programs.

**27 July** – At an impressive ceremony, the 100th Infantry Battalion was presented with the Distinguished Unit Citation Streamers by General Mark Clark, commanding General, and Fifth Army. General Clark affixed the blue streamers to the colors and guidons of the 100th Battalion, and decorated the battalion commander and color bearers with Distinguished Unit Citation Badge, which will also be worn by all members of the Battalion. The 442nd combat team was also commended by General Charles L. Bolte, Division commander, accompanied General Clark.

**28 July** – At another ceremony, the 2nd Battalion formed part of the Guard of Honor for King George VI of England, at Cecina. The King personally felicitates the members of the Battalion who had earned the Purple Heart and presented Silver Stars for gallantry in action.

On the evening of the same day, a concert was presented by Miss Lili Pons, renowned star of the Metropolitan Opera, and Mr. Andre Kostelanetz, symphonic conductor. The concert was well attended.

**29-30 July** - Rest period continues.

**31 July** - Company A, 100th Infantry Battalion, relieved Company. F, 133 Infantry at Livorno, per Division order, 2nd Battalion, 442nd Infantry, alerted for possible movement.

**1 August** – Training resumed. A mine accident occurred on August 2nd in the 3rd Battalion area, causing ten deaths and one fatal injury. A crate of TNT exploded while being loaded on a truck of the 109th Engineer Battalion after a mine laying demonstration. Seven of the casualties were enlisted men from the 109th Engineer Battalion. Seven of the casualties were enlisted men from the 109th Engineer Battalion, two from the 232nd Engineer Company, and two from Company M, 442nd Infantry. The regiment continued with one battalion on the alert to meet a possible amphibious operation from the west against the assigned 34 Division sector.

## **Our KIA losses for the 2nd day of August 1944**

|                                   |                 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 100 C Pfc. Akimoto, John          | Los Angeles, CA |
| 232 Eng Sgt. Betsui, Daniel       | Kauai           |
| 232 Eng Cpl. Iha, Masao           | Kapaa, HI       |
| 100 A Cpl. Ihara, Kazuo           | Hilo, HI        |
| 442 M S/Sgt. Kanamitsu, Katsuhiko | Wailuku, HI     |
| 100 A Cpl. Mekata, Thomas, T      | Waipahu, HI     |
| 442 M Pfc. Nishi, Chikao          | Papikou, HI     |

# **BATTLE CAMPAIGNS** *Excerpts from the 442nd Journals*

## **Our KIA loss for the 5th day of August 1944**

442 L Pfc. Fujino, Yasuo

Seattle, WA

# **BATTLE CAMPAIGNS** *Excerpts from the 442nd Journals*

## **Rome to Arno, Campaign Part IV August 6, 1944 - September 5, 1944**

**6 August** – A retreat parade of 3rd Battalion was held commemorating the first Combat appointment of an enlisted man to commission status. 2nd Lt. Shoichi Koizumi, Company L, formerly platoon sergeant had the distinction of being thus recognized for leadership and ability during combat.

**9 August** – Battle honors for participating in the Italian Campaign were awarded to the 442nd Combat Team and 232nd Engineer Company.

By letter AG 200 6/351 P-O, Hq, Natoussa, August 2, 1944, Subject: Battle Participation Awards: This award entitles the regiment to carry battle streamer on the regimental colors and individuals to wear a bronze star on the service ribbon for the European-African-Middle-Eastern Theater of Operations.

**10 August** – The 100th Infantry Battalion (Sep), re-designated as the 100th Battalion of the 442nd RCT (Less AT Company.). Reorganized in accordance with T; O & E.

**15 August** – 442nd RCT detached from 34th Infantry Division. 100th Battalion attached IV corps: 442nd to II corps.

### **Our KIA loss for the 15th day of August 1944**

442 Cannon Pvt. Ota, George                      Parlier, CA

**17 August** – 442nd RCT (less 100th Battalion) detached from 85th Division, attached to 88th Division. 232nd Engineer (C Company) reorganized involved changes in equipment only.

Swimmers from the 442nd Infantry and 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry representing the Fifth Army, won the team championship in the theater-wide swimming meet held in Rome 19-20 August 44. The competition included Olympic and national champions drawn from all Allied forces in the Mediterranean area. Pfc. Charles Oda scored three firsts, Pvt. Halo Hirose one. Others on the team were: Captain Katsume Kometani (coach), Pfc Yujiro Takahashi, Pvt. John Tsukano, Pvt. Kenneth Oshima, Tec 5 Isushi Oshita from the 100th Battalion, and Tec 5 Thomas Tanaka, Pvt. Mike Mizuki, Pfc Robert Iwamoto\*, Pvt. Jos Yasuda and Pfc. Asami Higuchi, from the 442nd Infantry.

**19 August** – 442nd RCT (less 100th Battalion and Antitank Company.) moved by truck convoy from vicinity of CASTEL-FIORENTINO to assembly area near Giocoli and remained in bivouac one day.

**20 August** – On the nights of the August 20-21, the combat Team moved up into the line relieving elements of the First British Division (Eighth Army) and took over sector south of the Arno River, on the southwestern outskirts of FLORENCE (FIRENZE). The regimental zone covered a front of six miles. The 3rd Battalion held the left, with the 2nd Battalion across the Greve River, on the right. The 1st Battalion, 349th Infantry was in reserve. Our battalions were supported by the 522nd Field Artillery Battalion, 232nd Engineer Company, 337th Field Artillery Battalion,



# BATTLE CAMPAIGNS *Excerpts from the 442nd Journals*

and 760th Tank Battalion.

## **Our KIA losses for the 20th day of August 1944**

|       |                          |              |
|-------|--------------------------|--------------|
| 442 E | Pfc. Iriguchi, Tadayoshi | Mahukona, HI |
| 442 E | Sgt. Oba, Sunichi G      | Lahaina, HI  |
| 442 E | Pfc. Takenaka, Tooru     | Hanalei, HI  |

**21 August** – Combat Commissions for two EM were approved by telegram Hq. Fifth Army, 21 August 44: Technical Sergeants Takeji B. Kinoshita of Company I and Masao Chomori of Company F were appointed 2nd Lieutenant, effective 16 Aug. 44.

## **Our KIA losses for the 22nd day of August 1944**

|        |                      |              |
|--------|----------------------|--------------|
| 100 A  | S/Sgt. Sahara, Atsuo | Honolulu, HI |
| 100 Hq | Pfc. Saito, Kinji    | Waipahu, HI  |

## **Our KIA losses for the 23rd day of August 1944**

Cpt. Hempstead, Robert I, 442 M, Atlanta, GA  
Pvt. Takemoto, Haruo, 442 L, Wahiawa, HI  
Pvt. Watanabe, Kiyotoshi, 442 3Hq, Lahaina, HI

**23-26 August** – The regiment remained in position on the south bank of the Arno River. Harassing artillery and automatic weapons fire were exchanged with the Germans who possessed the north bank. Patrols on both sides were intensely active. The rifle companies of both battalions maintained constant reconnaissance and combat patrols in enemy territory and posted ambush patrols and listening posts at crossroads and other vantage points to intercept German scouting parties.

Capt. Hempstead, Commanding Officer of Company M, was killed on 23 August while leading a combat patrol into Colembana, a German Crossing-point. In the ensuing firefight, 8 Germans were killed. Our losses: Lt. Potter, Company M, wounded and taken prisoner, 1 EM KIA, 3 EM WIA.

Other typical patrols: On the night of 24 August, Lt. Graham and 1 EM from Company K crossed the Arno and reconnoitered the far side. On the following night, the same officers and a squad from Company K patrolled the south bank, which was found to be heavily mined and booby-trapped. Patrols from companies E, F and G crossed the river on the same night and obtained information as to the: height and slope of the river banks, depth of water, location of fords and composition for railroad embankment on the far side. This information was necessary for future tank movements and engineering construction. All patrols from the 2nd Battalion met resistance from German Infantry.

An incident of note occurred on 23 August. Following the Company M patrol skirmish in which Capt. Hempstead was killed, four litter bearers from the 442nd Infantry advanced under a Geneva Flag, and evacuated two of the wounded. Both our own and German riflemen covered the litter bearers while they worked. Following this, S/Sgt Kanaye, returned to the scene of the action, and once again met a German Party under the Geneva flag and removed our two remaining dead.

# BATTLE CAMPAIGNS *Excerpts from the 442nd Journals*

## **Our KIA losses for the 25th and 26th day of August 1944**

|       |                         |                 |
|-------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| 442 K | Pfc. Madokoro, Harry F  | Watsonville, CA |
| 442 I | Pfc. Shimizu, Gordon S  | Aiea, HI        |
| 442 E | Pfc. Hoshino, Robert S. | Chicago, IL     |
| 100 D | Tsukamoto, Daniel Y     | Los Angeles, CA |

**28 August** - A Detachment of 26 Officers and 22 EMs from the Brazilian Expeditionary Force was attached to the 442nd Infantry as observers and to acquire combat experience. They joined the front line companies and were released 1 September.

On the night of the 28<sup>th</sup>, a patrol from G Company crossed the Arno and penetrated 800 yards into the enemy positions on reconnaissance. Enemy machine gun and mortar fire held up our other patrols at the river line.

## **Our KIA losses for the 25th and 26th day of August 1944**

|       |                           |               |
|-------|---------------------------|---------------|
| 442 F | S/Sgt. Masuda, Kazuo      | Santa Ana, CA |
| 442 M | 2nd Lt. Potter Jr., Ralph | Indiana       |
| 442 E | Pfc. Kanzaki, Akira       | Seattle, WA   |
| 100 C | Pvt. Nagao, Goichi        | Ninole, HI    |

**31 August** - Four German prisoners of war were taken by a patrol from K Company, II corps had indicated a pressing need for such prisoners for intelligence purposes.

On the night of 30-31<sup>st</sup>, our patrols found evidences of a German withdrawal along the 29 river line. This information was confirmed by reports from the 6th Gordons, corps (British) on the right, and the 6th South African Division on the regimental left. Enemy demolitions were heard and air observation disclosed that the Germans were blowing bridges south of Campi Bisenzio. Prisoner of War and partisan information indicated that the new enemy OPL was located South of Campi Bisenzio and running east to the town Sesto, with the MLR running east and west through the southern edge of Prato.

## **Our KIA losses for the 31st of August 1944**

|       |                          |              |
|-------|--------------------------|--------------|
| 442 E | 2nd Lt. Gagnon, Roland J | Unknown      |
| 442 E | T/Sgt. Murakama, Isami   | Honolulu, HI |

**1 Sept** – Company G established a strongpoint on the north bank of the Arno; and at 1900 Company F supported by tanks and engineers, crossed at the bridgehead and occupied the town of Peretola. On the same night, at approximately 2100, K Company also crossed the river and entered San Mauro. Both companies immediately set up outpost guards and sent out patrols.

As in all areas long occupied by the Germans, the new sector was found to be saturated with mines. Antipersonnel mines in trees, booby-trapped houses, trip wire and fields of teller

# BATTLE CAMPAIGNS *Excerpts from the 442nd Journals*

mines comprised a major hazard. Lt. Lang, 3rd Battalion Graves Registration Officer, while on a mission to recover a body of one of our casualties, was himself killed when his jeep set off a teller mine. In the same accident Chaplain Yamada and an enlisted man were wounded. Squads of Minesweepers from 232nd Engineer Company and from the A&P Platoons of the Battalion Headquarters companies, went over the areas, neutralizing or taping off the suspected charges.

## **Our KIA losses for the 1st day of September 1944**

|                                |              |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| 442 3Hq Pfc. Kamikawa, Shizuto | Konokaa, HI  |
| 442 3Hq Cpl. Kanda, Kakezo     | Honolulu, HI |
| 442 3Hq 2nd Lt. Lang, Clarence | Unknown      |
| 100 B Pfc. Suwa, Nobuyuki      | Lanai, HI    |

**2 Sept** – A patrol from Company K, operating from San Mauro, reached as far as the town of San Martino, reconnoitering Camp Bisenzio on the way, and returned without making contact with the enemy. A patrol from the 2nd Battalion, starting from Peretola, penetrated as far as Sesto, made contact with a British patrol there and returned without casualties.

**3 Sep** – General Sir Harold Alexander, Commander of the Allied Armies in Italy, visited the regimental CP and the 2nd Battalion.

**6 Sept**– The 442nd RCT moved by truck convoy from the vicinity of Scandicci to an assembly area at Castiglioncello. The route taken was south out of Florence, along Highway 2 to Poggibonsi then West along Hwy 68 to Collemezano, then North along Hwy1 to destination. Distance covered approximately 70 miles. Weather – rainy.

## **Our KIA loss for the 6th day of September 1944**

|                             |              |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| 442 K S/Sgt. Tanouye, Ted T | Torrance, CA |
|-----------------------------|--------------|

## **Our KIA loss for the 7th day of September 1944**

|                               |            |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| 442 K Pfc. Fujioka, Wendell S | Pahala, HI |
|-------------------------------|------------|

**6 Sep** - 442nd Regimental Combat Team was detached from the 88th Infantry Division, and reverted to II corps control. Effective upon arrival at Castiglioncello, the 442nd RCT was detached from IV corps and reverted to Fifth Army control. Above changes in organization directed by II corps Staff message, dated 5 Sept 44, Commanding General 88 Division and Commanding Officer, 442nd RCT.

Upon arrival at the new assembly area, clothing and equipment shortages were checked, vehicles overhauled, and general preparations made for an intended move. The 100th Battalion, 442nd RCT, rejoined the Combat Team at the assembly area.

**10 Sept** – Entire combat Team moved to staging (2nd Replacement Depot) vicinity NAPLES. Personnel moved via truck to Piobino, then to NAPLES by Liberty 1600 12 Sept. The voyage was made in

# BATTLE CAMPAIGNS

Excerpts from the 442nd Journals

fair weather and was without incident. Organic vehicles ship convoy disembarking at 2400 11 Sept. Final elements of the combat Team moved to NAPLES in motor convoy, following Highways to No. 1 and No.7, distance covered, approximately 300 miles.

Effective upon arrival at NAPLES, the 442nd RCT was detached from Fifth Army, and assigned to Seventh Army, and attached to NATOUSA for administration and SOS NATOUSA for supply, in accordance with secret letter AG370.5-Y, Headquarters Fifth Army.

**5 Sept** - The following letter from Lieutenant General Mark W. Clark, Commanding General, 5th Army, dated 7 September 44, addressed to Commanding Officer, 442nd Infantry, is quoted:

*"I desire to commend you on the occasion of your departure from Fifth Army for the superior job you and your troops have done while assigned to Fifth Army.*

*Assigned to 5th Army in the latter part of May, your men took an active part in the capture of Leghorn. American troops of Japanese Ancestry are well known to the Fifth Army for splendid showing which had previously been made by the 100th Infantry Battalion during the course of the past year. The conduct of your troops was exemplary both on the battlefield and in the rest areas. Your men have demonstrated an eagerness for combat and have proven themselves to be better than anything the enemy has been able to put against them. The courage and determination which the men of the 442nd RCT have displayed during their short time in combat has been an inspiration to all.*

*It has been a great pleasure and privilege to have had the 442nd Combat Team in the Fifth Army. I wish you every success in your new assignment."*

The following letter from Major General Charles L. Bolte, Commanding General, 34th Infantry Division, dated 18 August 1944, addressed to the Commanding Officer, 442nd RCT at the time of its detachment from the 34th Infantry Division, it made a matter of record.

*"The 442nd Combat Team came to the 34th Division on 24 June 1944, well trained, capably led, and highly endowed with a spirit and determination to win. Immediately, you won the admiration and cordial relationship of your new associates.*

*To have had you earn your battle spurs with us during your introduction into Combat from 26 June, near Grosseto, Italy, where you received your first baptism of fire and terminate the period of Combat service with your triumphal drive on PISA on 27 July, has been a distinct pleasure to myself and this Command. Hammering the enemy steadily and doggedly pushing obstacles before you, you liberated, in your short time with us, over 10 Italian towns, killed, captured, and wounded over 1000 Germans and captured and destroyed considerable quantities of enemy artillery, tanks, pillboxes and transport. Your performance has been excellent.*

*Today, almost a year and a half after your historic activities, when you enthusiastically volunteered from the mainland of America and the territories of Hawaii and Alaska, to fight for your principles, you have indeed proven to all the world your devotion and loyalty to your country, your willingness and ability to fight alongside your fellow Americans and your gallantry on the field of battle.*

# **BATTLE CAMPAIGNS** Excerpts from the 442nd Journals

*Now you leave us, to carry on elsewhere with your high ideals and traditional fighting spirits, is with sincere regret that the 34th Division relinquishes Command of the 442nd Combat Team, after such a short but efficacious association. We shall watch with interest your continued achievements and victories.”*

Compiled by Americans of Japanese Ancestry World War II Memorial Alliance in partnership with Japanese American Living Legacy  
Last Revised Thursday, December 29, 2011