



nichi bei times

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March 24, 1979

Mr. Frank Abe,
c/o David Ishii, Bookseller,
212 First Av., South,
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Frank,

Thanks for coming to the Nichi Bei Times on March 5. I contacted Karl Nobuyuki and John Iateishi the next day for the enclosed article. Also ran your Hayakawa open letter article on the same day.

I am sending my check for \$25 for the open letter fund. Just recalled the deadline was March 23, but I hope it's not too late.

If its not too late, I would also like to make a suggestion for an addition to the text of the letter. The 442nd has deservedly been credited with the improvement of U. S. attitudes of the nisei, I strongly feel that it is time to mention the deeds of the Military Intelligence Service GIs. More or less a military secret for over 30 years, their exploits are now finally been told in the new book "Yankee Samurai" and I feel that this letter would be a great opportunity to let more Americans know that thousands of nisei fought in the Pacific area.

I would suggest the following:

Keep generally a military secret until very recently is the fact that some 2500 nisei, many of them recruited from reloca-

tion camps, trained by the army, but some serving on Navy ships, with the U. S. Marines and with Australian units, as interpreters, translators and prisoner of war interrogators. Gen. Douglas MacArthur's top aides have been quoted as saying that the success of these nisei in finding information about the enemy and enemy plans helped shorten the war by a year and saved hundreds of thousands of American and Japanese lives.

Frank, please keep me informed on this matter. There's some report that Hayakawa is hedging a bit, but I believe with you people that the public must be made aware of our feelings about his remarks. I object most strongly to his oft repeated assertion that the Evacuation was for our own protection.

Thanks again for dropping by. Quite a coincidence that I happened to be working on an "open letter" article when you came.

Yours truly,

Yas Abiko

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