



SIXTY-FIFTH
ANNIVERSARY

of the

*Rescue of
the Lost
Battalion*

HOMECOMING
FOR HEROES
TRIBUTE DINNER



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JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE - HOUSTON CHAPTER
ASIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Event Sponsored By

THE NATIONAL JAPANESE AMERICAN
MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

SOUTHWEST AIRLINES
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YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND THE
HOMECOMING FOR HEROES TRIBUTE DINNER
IN HONOR OF THE 65TH ANNIVERSARY
of the

*Rescue of the Texas 1st Battalion, 141st
Infantry Regiment*

by the

442nd Regimental Combat Team

Admiral Michael G. Mullen, USN

CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
KEYNOTE SPEAKER

The Honorable James Wright

PRESERVATION OF CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS
AWARD RECIPIENT

The Honorable John Connally, Jr., USN (RET.)

IN MEMORIAM

CHAIRMAN'S AWARD RECIPIENT
(Accepted by his family)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2009

5:00 PM RECEPTION 6:00 PM DINNER

HYATT REGENCY HOUSTON
THE IMPERIAL BALLROOM
1200 LOUISIANA STREET
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77002

DRESS UNIFORM/BUSINESS ATTIRE

THE VETERAN HONOREES OF WORLD WAR II

ATTENDING THE HOMECOMING FOR HEROES DINNER

2ND LIEUTENANT ELIEL (ARCH) ARCHILLA
405 Fighter Squadron, 371 Fighter Group

TECHNICIAN 5TH GRADE MILLARD BLACK
A Battery, 131 Field Artillery Battalion,
141 Infantry Battalion

2ND LIEUTENANT ERWIN H. BLONDER
A Company, 131 Field Artillery Battalion,
141 Infantry Battalion

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS ROBERT R. CAMAIANI, SR.
D Company, 1st Battalion, 141 Infantry Battalion

SERGEANT MICHAEL DOI
A Company, 100th Battalion, 442 Regimental
Combat Team

TECHNICAL SERGEANT BRUCE E. ESTES
C Company, 1st Battalion, 141 Infantry Battalion

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS GEORGE K. FUJIMOTO
Service Company, 442 Regimental Combat Team

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS JOE C. HILTY
A Company, 1st Battalion, 141 Infantry Battalion

CORPORAL EDWARD ICHIYAMA
C Company, 522 Field Artillery Battalion,
442 Regimental Combat Team

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS HENRY IKEMOTO
Anti-Tank Company, 442 Regimental Combat
Team

SERGEANT KENNETH K. INADA
K Company, 3rd Battalion, 442 Regimental
Combat Team

2ND LIEUTENANT SUSUMU ITO
522 Field Artillery Battalion, 442 Regimental
Combat Team

STAFF SERGEANT JIMMIE KANAYA
Medical Detail, 3rd Battalion, 442 Regimental
Combat Team

PRIVATE DAVID KATAGIRI
F company, 2nd Battalion, 442 Regimental
Combat Team

SERGEANT WATARU KOHASHI
F Company, 2nd Battalion, 442 Regimental
Combat Team

SERGEANT JOHN KRAUSE
E Company, 2nd Battalion, 141 Infantry Battalion

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS ALBERT L. LASSEIGNE
K Company, 3rd Battalion, 141 Infantry Battalion

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS OCEAN Y. MIYAKE
F Company, 2nd Battalion, 442 Regimental
Combat Team

CORPORAL MARK E. NAKAZAWA
D Company, 100th Battalion, 442 Regimental
Combat Team

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS FRANK K. NISHIMURA
B Company, 100th Battalion, 442 Regimental
Combat Team

TECHNICIAN 5TH GRADE RONALD M. OBA
F company, 2nd Battalion, 442 Regimental
Combat Team

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS JAMES M. OGAWA
C Company, 100th Battalion, 442 Regimental
Combat Team

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS LAWSON I. SAKAI
E Company, 2nd Battalion, 442 Regimental
Combat Team

PRIVATE GEORGE SAKATO
E Company, 2nd Battalion, 442 Regimental
Combat Team

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS DON SEKI
L Company, 3rd Battalion, 442 Regimental
Combat Team

CORPORAL FUMIO STEVE SHIMIZU
F Company, 2nd Battalion, 442 Regimental
Combat Team

PRIVATE MITSUO TACHIBANA
K Company, 3rd Battalion, 442 Regimental
Combat Team

SERGEANT WILLIE R. TANAMACHI
171 Battalion, 442 Regimental Combat Team

**PRIVATE FIRST CLASS
ASTRO (AL) TORTOLANO**
B Company, 1st Battalion, 141 Infantry Battalion

STAFF SERGEANT JACK WILSON
D Company, 1st Battalion, 141 Infantry Battalion

FIRST LIEUTENANT MASAMI SAM YOSHINARI
Cannon Company, 442 Regimental Combat Team

Dear Patriots, Friends and Fellow Americans,

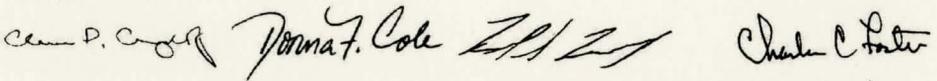
We are very proud to host this special 65th Anniversary Tribute dinner for veterans of the "Rescue of the Lost Battalion." On November 1st, we are holding a special event in Houston that is a tribute to the 442nd Regimental Combat Team (RCT) who rescued the Texas based, 141st Infantry Battalion nicknamed the "Lost Battalion" during World War II.

Over 30 World War II Veterans who served in the 442nd and the 141st are flying to Houston to participate in this special evening. This is the 2nd time since World War II that these heroes are being brought together to celebrate this pivotal rescue. The 141st was completely surrounded by the Germans. Two other rescue teams tried to get through enemy lines to reach the "Lost Battalion"...but to no avail. The 442nd had distinguished itself as tough, capable and determined. This all Japanese-American Battalion wanted to prove to its country that they were Americans first and foremost. When they began the mission to rescue the Lost Battalion, few thought success was possible. The 442nd suffered hundreds of casualties during the battle, while they defeated the Germans, and rescued the remaining 211 members of the 141st.

At the Tribute dinner, we will also honor Speaker Jim Wright and Governor Connally (whose family will be on hand to accept a tribute to him)...who both played a role in recognizing the contributions of the Japanese American soldiers of the 442nd who became known as the Purple Heart Battalion as they were the most decorated battalion in both purple hearts and medals of honor for size and length of service.

We hope you will make plans to attend this once in a lifetime event and make a contribution to help fund some special projects. The proceeds of the event will pay for the veterans and a family member to attend this final tribute. The Crane Monument (shown on the front cover of the invitation) will also be erected in Houston to pay tribute to the 442nd and recount the story of this historic battle. And finally an educational interactive exhibit will be funded that will insure the "Rescue of the Lost Battalion" will be remembered for generations to come.

All our best,



Clarence Cazalot	Donna Cole	Fred Zeidman	Hon. Charles Foster
CEO,	CEO,	National Chairman,	Founder
Marathon Oil	Cole Chemical	US Holocaust	and Co-Chairman
		Memorial Council	FosterQuan, LLP

Congressional Medal of Honor Recipient

In Attendance

GEORGE T. SAKATO, PRIVATE, U.S. ARMY



Private George T. Sakato distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action on 29 October 1944, on Hill 617 in the vicinity of Biffontaine, France. After his platoon had virtually destroyed two enemy defense lines, during which he personally killed five enemy soldiers and captured four, his unit was pinned down by heavy enemy fire. Disregarding the enemy fire, Private Sakato made a one-man rush that encouraged his platoon to charge and destroy the enemy strongpoint. While his platoon was reorganizing, he proved to be the inspiration of his squad in halting a counter-attack on the left flank during which his squad leader was killed. Taking charge of the squad, he con-

tinued his relentless tactics, using an enemy rifle and P-38 pistol to stop an organized enemy attack. During this entire action, he killed 12 and wounded 2, personally captured 4 and assisted his platoon in taking 34 prisoners. By continually ignoring enemy fire, and by his gallant courage and fighting spirit, he turned impending defeat into victory and helped his platoon complete its mission. Private Sakato's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit on him, his unit, and the United States Army.



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