S/Sgt DONALD SHIRO HAYASHI

April 12, 1919 to February 9, 1944

Donald Shiro Hayashi was born in Honolulu, Oahu on April 12, 1919. He was the son of Hyosaburo and Asako (Hantani) Hayashi. He was educated at Royal School, McKinley High School, Mid-Pacific Institute in Honolulu. Prior to entering the army he was an inspector, at the Hawaiian Pineapple Co., Ltd.

Hayashi (SN30101659) was inducted into the military on June 30, 1941 in Honolulu. He initially trained at Schofield Barracks, Oahu, with the 298th Infantry Regiment. He later received advanced training with Co. A, 100th Infantry Battalion at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, and Camp Shelby, Mississippi.

He served in the Hawaiian Islands, continental United States, Algeria, Africa, and in Italy.

He was awarded the Silver Star Medal (posthumously), Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman Badge, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, American Campaign Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, and the World War II Victory Medal. S/Sgt. Donald Shiro Hayashi was killed in action near Cassino, Italy on February 9, 1944.

Hayashi is interred at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl, Honolulu. His siblings are: Harold Hayashi, Yurichi Hayashi, Richard Hayashi, Frances Hayashi Irie, Robert Hayashi and Lillian Hayashi.

HEADQUARTERS 34TH INFANTRY DIVISION

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR (POSTHUMOUSLY) to:

DONALD S. HAYASHI, (30101659) Corporal (then Private) Company A, 100th Infantry Battalion (Sep) for gallantry in action on ****October 1943**** in the vicinity of ****Italy. When his squad leader was wounded during a severe enemy counter-attack, Cpl Hayashi on his own initiative took command of the squad. The squad, pinned down by heavy enemy artillery, mortar and machine-gun fire, had suffered heavy casualties, and the order came to withdraw. There being several men so severely wounded that immediate removal was impossible, Cpl Hayashi with utter disregard for his own personal safety, stayed behind administering first-aid and holding the position single-handed. For over an hour and forty minutes he fired his rifle at the enemy and held the advanced position until all the wounded were safely evacuated by litter squads. Cpl Hayashi’s courage and initiative in the face of grave danger helped save the lives of several of his comrades and was a credit to the Armed Forces of the United States.

Entered military service from Honolulu, Hawaii, Territory of Hawaii.

****Asterisks used for security reason

Original copy as found in the book “In Freedom’s Cause”
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