

## **Pvt Himeo Hiratani**

August 27, 1917 - November 4, 1943



Himeo Hiratani was born in Wahiawa, Oahu, on August 27, 1917. He was the son of Haruyo (Daigo) Hiratani. He was educated at Wahiawa Elementary School, Leilehua High and Intermediate School, Oahu. Before entering the service, he was a Neon technician at Household Appliances, Ltd., Oahu.

Hiratani (SN 30101500) was inducted into the Army at Schofield Barracks, Oahu on June 30, 1941. He trained at Schofield Barracks, Oahu; Camp McCoy, Wisconsin; and Camp Shelby, Mississippi.

He served with the 298<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment and the 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion, Headquarters Company, in the Hawaiian Islands, continental United States, Algeria, Africa and Italy.

He was awarded the Silver Star Medal, Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman Badge, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, American Service Medal, American Campaign Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, and the World War II Victory Medal.

Pvt Himeo Hiratani was killed in action near Venafro, Italy, during the Salerno to Cassino Campaign on November 4, 1943.

He is interred at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl) in Honolulu, Hawaii.

### **HEADQUARTERS 34<sup>TH</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION UNITED STATES ARMY, APO-34**

**GENERAL ORDER NO.42**

**2 June 1944**

#### **AWARDS OF THE SILVER STAR (POSTHUMOUSLY)**

*HIMEO HIRATANI (30101500) Private, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action on 4 November 1943, in the vicinity of Venafro, Italy, Pvt. Hiratani, a member of a wire team was laying communication wire along a road to his battalion forward CP when an enemy group armed with rifles and two machine guns opened fire at close range on the wire team. Unable to by-pass the position, Pvt Hiratani and his comrades determined to push forward to their destination and accomplish their mission in spite of the concentrated fire. Returning the enemy fire as best they could Pvt Hiratani and his comrades continued laying the wire but while so engaged he was fatally wounded. Pvt Hiratani's devotion to duty at the cost of his own life reflects credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered service from Wahiawa, Oahu, Territory of Hawaii. Next of kin: Mrs. Haruyo Hiratani (Mother), P.O. Box #150, Wahiawa, Oahu, Territory of Hawaii.*

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