Sgt Masaji Irie
February 23, 1913 - January 24, 1944

Masaji Irie was born in Ewa, Oahu, on February 23, 1913. He was the son of Toyoichi and Ito (Tomimura) Irie. He was educated at Ewa Elementary and Intermediate School, McKinley High School, Oahu, University of Missouri. He married Miyeko Ichiba (of Ewa, Oahu), Dec. 24, 1941, son, Dennis Masafumi. Before entering the service, he was a job analyzer at Ewa Plantation Co., Oahu.

Irie (SN 30100422) was inducted into the Army at Schofield Barracks, Oahu on December 10, 1940. He trained at Schofield Barracks, Oahu, Camp McCoy, Wisconsin and Camp Shelby, Mississippi.

He served with the 298th Infantry Regiment and the 100th Infantry Battalion, Company C, in the Hawaiian Islands, continental United States, Algeria, Africa and Italy.

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

Sgt. Masaji Irie was killed in action near Cassino Italy, during the Salerno to Cassino Campaign on January 24, 1944.

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

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Russell K. Shoho