Masatomo Mashita was born on June 16, 1917, in Honolulu, Oahu. He was the son of Heikichi and Miki (Hongo) Mashita. He was educated at Central Intermediate School, McKinley High School in Oahu. Before entering the service, he was employed as an upholsterer for Mashita Mattress Shop in Honolulu.

Mashita (SN 30102229) was inducted into the Army at Schofield Barracks, Oahu on November 15, 1941. He trained at Schofield Barracks, Oahu with the 298th Infantry Regiment. He was assigned to Company A, 100th Infantry Battalion for advance combat training at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin and Camp Shelby, Mississippi.

Upon completion of combat training in the continental United States, he was dispatched overseas to Algeria, Africa and subsequently participated in the landing at Salerno, Italy and the Italian Campaign.

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

Pvt. Masatomo Mashita was killed in action near Colli and Scapoli, Italy during the Salerno to Cassino Campaign on November 30, 1943.

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

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Russell K. Shoho