

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Edward V Moran

*February 14, 1912 - May 30, 1944*



2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Edward V Moran (ASN 01305813) platoon commander with the segregated Japanese American 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion from Hawaii was killed on May 30, 1944 just days before the triumphant entry of the Fifth Army into Rome. 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Edward V Moran was born February 14, 1912. (Valentine Day) Edward Moran entered service from Kansas before April 9, 1942. Records note that Moran was a Catholic. Death records reveal that on April 9, 1942 as an enlisted man, he designated as beneficiaries, Raymond H Moran brother of Memphis, Tenn. and John J. Moran, brother of Kansas. Records further reveal that Edward Moran became 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. December 26, 1942. (Day after Christmas)

The 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion attached to the 34<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division landed at Salerno, Italy at D+12 on September 22, 1943 to begin a saga of bravery and courage. They battled the Germans and the terrain and the weather. They endured three crossings of the Volturno River, and for five months attempted to capture the Monte Cassino. It was three months later, after the 100<sup>th</sup> and the 34<sup>th</sup> Division were relieved, that seven divisions would crush the abbey and enable the Allied forces to move on. The 100<sup>th</sup> reduced to half strength were assigned to the Anzio Beachhead while they waited for reinforcements and the minor injured to heal and return to duty. With the fall of Cassino, the road to Rome was opened. The Nisei showed their determination, their willingness to die if need be. Led by Company Commander Captain Kim, Company B, the 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion were able to lead the American forces in a breakout of the Anzio beachhead. 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Edward V Moran was KIA by shrapnel to the neck and face on May 30, 1944 (Memorial Day) in the vicinity of Lanuvio just days before the triumphant march into Rome.

*The 100<sup>th</sup> had wiped out the final enemy stronghold on the road to Rome, but there is no reference to this vital small-unit action involving the 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion at Lanuvio in the official U.S. Army history of the campaign. But Americans who fought with the Nisei didn't forget. After the battle at Lanuvio, one Caucasian officer wrote to the Auburn (California) Journal: "We had been sitting and living in foxholes at Anzio some 63 days. Then the big push out and the capture of Rome. They (100<sup>th</sup> Battalion) wiped out the last heavy German resistance we met some 12 miles south of Rome and then it was practically a walk into the city."*

2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Edward V Moran was survived by brothers; Raymond H Moran, of Memphis, Tenn., Francis E Moran, of Joplin, Missouri, John J Moran, of Claflin, Kansas and Sister Mary Lois Claire Moran, sister of Dubuque, Iowa. (The parents were noted as deceased in August 1944)

2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Edward V Moran was awarded Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster.

2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Edward V Moran was temporarily buried at the United States Military Cemetery Plot Y, Row 48 Grave 3445 Nettuno, Italy and in September 1948 moved to permanent grave site, Sicily-Rome American Cemetery Plot C Row 15, Grave 3, Nettuno, Italy.

