

Pfc Takanori Allen Nishi

September 25, 1920 - July 12, 1944



Takanori Allen Nishi, (#39915180) 23 years of age, son of Dr. Chotoku Nishi, of 16-2-A Gila River Relocation was killed in action in the vicinity of Pastina, Italy on July 12, 1944 fighting with Company C of the 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team. Takanori Nishi was born in San Francisco September 25, 1920 to Dr. Chotoku and Alice Tanaka Nishi and received his early education in Albany. Taka graduated from San Francisco Junior College in June 1941. Following the Japanese attack of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 and Executive Order 9066, Taka Nishi was forcibly evacuated from San Francisco to Tanforan Race Track Assembly Center and because of his father's status as a doctor, Dr. Nishi was sent to the Gila Relocation Center in Arizona. Taka Nishi was permitted to leave Tanforan to go to Idaho to help harvest sugar beets. Taka Nishi

entered Topaz Relocation Center in Central Utah on November 23, 1942 from the Minidoka Relocation Center in Idaho.

Taka Nishi volunteered for the 442nd Regimental Combat Team from the Topaz Concentration Camp in Utah and was inducted at Fort Douglas, Utah on June 21, 1943. Pvt Taka Nishi joined Company F 442nd RCT for training at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. On his furlough on January 9, 1944, Taka Nishi married Frances T Kimura, formerly of San Francisco in Detroit, Michigan. Pfc Nishi completed his training with Company F, and in March 1944. He volunteered to join the 100th Infantry Battalion in Italy as a badly needed replacement. Pvt Nishi was assigned to Company C, 100th Infantry battalion. Pfc Nishi saw action in the Anzio Beachhead to Rome campaign where the 100th battled for two months, sustaining heavy casualties in the Anzio Beachhead before breaking out and spearheading the victorious drive to Rome. As the 100th Battalion was within sight of Rome, they were diverted from leading the American and Allied forces into Rome. On June 26, 1944, the 100th Infantry Battalion became the 1st Battalion of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and promptly earned a Presidential Unit Citation for their action at Belvedere on the first day as the 100th/442nd RCT. Pfc Takanori Nishi was killed on July 12, 1944 in the Rome-Arno campaign as the Nisei Combat Team, the 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team made military history with their brave and courageous battles, as they battled their way to Livorno.

Pfc Takanori Allen Nishi was survived by his wife Frances T Nishi in Minneapolis, MN by his parents, Dr. Chotoku and Mrs. Nishi of Gila River, a brother who was serving in the Army Medical Corps in Oklahoma, and two sisters June Yoshioka and Jewel Nishi.

**AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR (POSTHUMOUSLY) GO 123 HQ 34th INF DIV,
4 NOV 1944 TAKANORI A. NISHI (39915180), Private First Class Company C, 100th
Infantry Battalion/442nd Regimental Combat Team United States Army**

For gallantry in action on 12 July 1944, in the vicinity of Pastina, Italy. As a member of a reconnaissance patrol, Pfc Nishi advanced to within ten feet of the enemy's outposts in order to gain information. Disregarding the platoon leader's orders to withdraw when almost surrounded by the enemy, Pfc Nishi continued observing the enemy movements. Finally in withdrawing, he was forced to fight his way back against a numerically superior force and was killed in the attempt. His comrades, however, returned safely and gave valuable information to the rest of the patrol which proved instrumental in the battalion's successful attack on the town of Pastina. The courage and devotion to duty displayed by Pfc Nishi gained for him the respect and admiration of his entire organization. Entered military service from Detroit, Michigan. Next of kin: Mrs. Frances T. Nishi (Wife), 5001 Second Ave, Detroit, Michigan.

Pfc Takanori A. Nishi was awarded the Silver Star, posthumously, Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman Badge, Distinguished Unit Badge, European African Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, and the World War II Victory Medal.

Pfc Takanori A. Nishi is buried at the Golden Gate National Cemetery in San Bruno, 20 miles south of San Francisco.

Pfc TakaNori Nishi's headstone at the Golden Gate National Cemetery notes that his death date was July 12, 1944. It identified that Pfc Nishi was in the 442nd Infantry and 3rd Infantry Division. (This should be 34th Infantry Division.) Also noted on the headstone were SS and PH, meaning Silver Star and Purple Heart.

Prepared for AJA WWII Memorial Alliance Echoes of silence by Mits Kojimoto and Kuniko Shimoguchi with data from:

*Mrs. Frances T Morioka
Pacific Citizen 8/12/44, Topaz 8/1/44 Citation NJAHS-National Archives, Date of birth and death -
headstone at Golden Gate Cemetery*