Robert Y. Ozaki was born in Honolulu, Oahu, on October 2, 1919. He was the son of Harry S. and Kazumi (Fujita) Ozaki. He was educated at Waialae School, Liliuokalani Intermediate School, McKinley High School, Iolani School, in Oahu. Before entering the service, he was employed by Castle & Cooke Terminals, Ltd. in Honolulu, Oahu.

Ozaki (SN 30100373) was inducted into the Army at Honolulu, Oahu in December, 1940. He took basic training at Schofield Barracks, Oahu and advance combat training at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin and Camp Shelby, Mississippi.

Ozaki served in Company A, 100th Infantry Battalion in the Hawaiian Islands and continental United States. Upon completion of advance combat training he was dispatched overseas to Algeria, Africa and subsequently participated in the landing at Salerno, Italy in the Italian Campaign and in France for the rescue of the “Lost Battalion” in the Vosges Mountain.

He was awarded the Purple Heart, Distinguished Unit Badge, Combat Infantryman 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.

T/Sgt. Robert Y. Ozaki died at Fitzsimmons General Hospital, Denver, Colorado, while recuperating from wounds on May 22, 1945. He was survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Ozaki, sisters, Doris and Ruth, all of Honolulu and a brother Kenneth, who was a dental student at the University of Minnesota.

He is interred at the Fairmont Cemetery in Denver, Colorado. Previous profile lists the Punchbowl as his gravesite. Visit to Denver and this photo taken by Jim McIlwain confirms the gravesite where Sgt Ozaki is interred.

Excerpts taken from In Freedom’s Cause: A Record of the Men of Hawaii Who Died in the Second World War (1949) with permission from The University of Hawaii Press.

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