

**September 18, 2023 e-mail message from Jeff Morita to several members of the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Organization:**

All, Aloha Monday,

Sharing success for one of my long running research projects –

This past April (2023) I established a “live person” contact at The Institute of Heraldry (TIOH), Department of the Army. In doing so and over a period of months, I initiated multiple formal requests for TIOH retained information on the U.S. Army military units listed below (TIOH results in parens).

1. 298<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment (no files retained at TIOH).
2. 299<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment (TIOH files received).  
Note: Currently the 1<sup>st</sup> Squadron, 299<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Regiment, Hawaii Army National Guard – located in Hilo.
3. The Hawaiian Division (TIOH files received).
4. Hawaii Provisional Infantry Battalion (no files retained at TIOH).
5. 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion (Separate); 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion/442<sup>nd</sup>; 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion, 442<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment (Reserves) (TIOH files received – attached).
6. 442<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment (TIOH files received).
7. 1399<sup>th</sup> Engineer Construction Battalion (no files retained at TIOH).  
Note: A query and response from Dr. James McNaughton opined, “a single engineer battalion that never left the Territory of Hawaii during the war was not authorized its own colors.”
8. 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalions, 442<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment (no files retained at TIOH).  
Note: Photograph depicting “battalion” colors on the internet.
9. 522<sup>nd</sup> Field Artillery Battalion (no files retained at TIOH).  
Note: Photographs depicting “battalion” colors on internet.

Specifically, I requested all available documentation for the draft submissions, staff reviews, and final approval process for the above military units’ – coat of arms and colors – the distinctive unit insignia (DUI) – and if applicable, the distinctive shoulder sleeve insignia (SSI). Attached are the TIOH files for the 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion. I trust the historical documentation is/are of interest, enlightening, and communicates a standardization of historical information for the 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion.

One note of particular interest is the approval of the 100<sup>th</sup> DUI, however, a correspondence dated February 3, 1943 indicated “...this distinctive insignia will not be manufactured” – this refers to the Battalion’s lapel DUI.

Missing in the TIOH – 100<sup>th</sup> files is/are documentation for the current U.S. Army Reserve 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion, 442<sup>nd</sup> Infantry. I am in the process of reviewing the TIOH – 442<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment files and believe the current approved DUI and coat of arms information is included in this batch of files.

**September 27, 2023 e-mail message from Jeff Morita to several members of the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Organization:**

**WHAT IS A COAT OF ARMS?**

A complete coat of arms consists of a shield displayed on the breast of the eagle on the organizational flag and a crest which appears over the eagle's head and a motto displayed on the scroll held in the eagle's beak.

**WHAT IS A CREST?**

The crest is placed above the eagle's head. Active Army units having war/campaign service are entitled to a crest for their coat of arms. All reserve units have the Minuteman and all National Guard units display the crest authorized for the State to which assigned.

**WHO IS AUTHORIZED FOR A COAT OF ARMS?**

All TO&E regiments and TO&E separate battalions are authorized a coat of arms on the organizational flag. The request for the DUI is also used for the request for the coat of arms. TIOH will provide a design along with the distinctive unit insignia. After the command concurs with the design, TIOH will prepare a flag drawing and forward it to the Soldier Systems Directorate in Philadelphia for permanent retention.

(Note on TO&E definition: A table of organization and equipment is the specified organization, staffing, and equipment of units.)