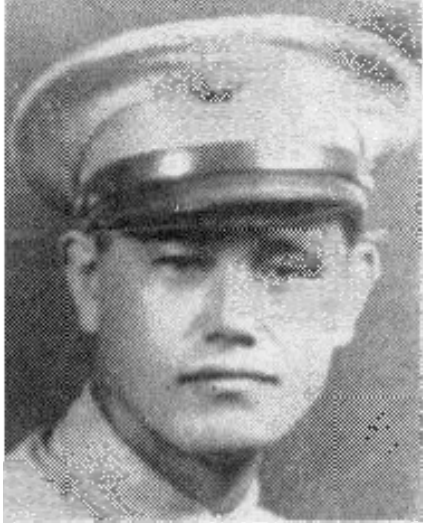


## S/Sgt Robert Masaru Takeo

April 4, 1913 - July 7, 1944



Robert Masaru Takeo was born on April 4, 1913, in Honolulu, Maui. He was the son of Sukeichi and Kuyo (Uyeda) Takeo. He was educated at Kilohana Elementary and Intermediate School and Molokai High and Elementary School, Molokai. Before entering the service, he was employed as a carpenter for E. E. Black, Ltd., Honolulu in Oahu.

Takeo (SN 30100574) was inducted into the Army at Kaunakakai, Molokai on December 8, 1940. He trained at Schofield Barracks, Oahu, Camp McCoy, Wisconsin and Camp Shelby, Mississippi.

He served with the 299<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment and the 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion, Company C, in the Hawaiian Islands, continental United States, Algeria, Africa and Italy.

He was awarded the Silver Star Medal, Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, American Defense

Service Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, American Campaign Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, and World War II Victory Medal.

S/Sgt. Robert Masaru Takeo was killed in action near Leghorn and Castellina Marittima during the Rome-Arno Campaign on July 7, 1944.

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

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AWARD, POSTHUMOUS, OF SILVER STAR (GO 15, Hq 5th Army, 23 Sept 44)  
ROBERT M. TAKEO, (30100574), Staff Sergeant, COMPANY C, 100th Infantry Battalion.  
*For gallantry in action, on 6 July 1944, near Castellina, Italy. During a dawn attack, Staff Sergeant TAKEO'S squad was given the mission of securing the exposed right flank of his platoon. While he led his men toward the assigned position, a force of approximately fifty Germans, armed with machine guns, machine pistols and rifles, and supported by mortar fire, launched a counterattack. Directing his men to follow him, Staff Sergeant Takeo crawled forward exposed to heavy machine gun and sniper fire. Advancing toward the enemy he was shot in the right arm by a sniper. Without stopping for first aid, Staff Sergeant Takeo continued his advance in the face of deadly enemy fire and reached a vantage point, where he located the positions of the sniper and the machine gun. Inspired by his coolness, his men followed him, crawled to his side and formed a firing line. While designating the locations of the enemy to his men, Sgt Takeo was mortally wounded. In the ensuing engagement, his men knocked out the sniper gun nest and opened fire on the approaching enemy and machine gun. Despite his wounds, Sgt Takeo fired his sub-machine at the enemy until his death. Inspired by the courage of their leader, his men fought with determination and successfully repulsed the counterattack. Staff Sergeant TAKEO'S intrepidity and indomitable fighting spirit are exemplary of the finest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States.*

*Entered military service from Kaunakakai, Molokai, Hawaii. Next of kin; Miss Winifred K. Takeo (Sister), Kaunakakai, Molokai, Territory of Hawaii.*

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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