Toyoshi Tamura was born on February 15, 1916, in Honolulu, Oahu. He was the son of Iwajiro and Suye (Miyamoto) Tamura. He was educated at Pohukaina School and McKinley High School, Oahu. Before entering the service, he was employed as a salesman at Tamura Fish Market, Honolulu, Hawaii.

Tamura (SN 30102240) was inducted into the Army at Schofield Barracks, Oahu on November 15, 1941. He was briefly stationed at Schofield Barracks, Oahu before taking advance combat training at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, and Camp Shelby, Mississippi.

He served with the 298th Infantry Regiment in Hawaii and later transferred to Company A, 100th Infantry Battalion for advance combat training in the continental United States.

Upon completion of training he was dispatched overseas to Algeria, Africa and subsequently participated in the landing at Salerno, Italy in the Italian Campaign.

He was awarded the Purple Heart Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, American Campaign Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, and the World War II Victory Medal.

Pvt. Toyoshi Tamura died of wounds in Pratello, Italy, during the Salerno to Cassino Campaign on November 1, 1943.

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

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.

Russell K. Shoho