

Process Paper

I chose the topic of Japanese-American racial barriers in WWII because of references to the exclusion and internment that I saw last year while researching the battleships damaged at Pearl Harbor and repaired at the Puget Sound Naval Yard in Bremerton, Washington. I felt this year's theme of Breaking Barriers provided a great opportunity to investigate the subject.

I first learned that publicity surrounding the 442nd Regimental Combat Team's rescue of the "Lost Battalion" ignited a positive change in public attitude toward Japanese Americans at a Humanities Washington presentation. This presentation about the lessons to be learned from the Japanese exclusion was by Clarence Moriwaki, President of the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Community. He spoke about the injustice that so many Japanese suffered when their basic rights were voided by America's fear. Families and individuals lost their possessions and livelihoods when they were targeted and unconstitutionally incarcerated by the U.S. Government. He also spoke of how the compassion the Woodwards showed their Japanese neighbors helped their return and recovery from internment.

I began my research by visiting the Japanese American Historical Plaza and History Museum in Portland, Oregon. I then visited the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial and Historical Museum. I continued by visiting the Heart Mountain, Wyoming and Tule Lake, California Relocation

Camp sites. Along the way I collected books, photos, videos, news articles, websites, and a new perspective.

I chose to create a website due to the volume of information to share coupled with my belief that a website provides the best opportunity to do so. I like the interactivensess of a website, the ability to share it with additional viewers, and that it allows the use of multiple forms of communication.

As I learned more about the increased prejudice propogated by fear after Pearl Harbor being reduced by the performance of Nisei troops, I developed my thesis that Japanese Americans had been able to break racial barriers during WWII.

Nisei soldiers of the 442nd RCT broke both the physical barrier of barbed wire encircled internment camps to fight in Europe AND the societal barrier of racial prejudice through their demonstration of fearless valor in combat thereby proving that they were loyal and trustworthy citizens regardless of their ancestry. Their achievements supplied the evidence that began to break down America's anti-Japanese barriers. Immigration, citizenship, and land ownership laws were rewritten. Many of the 442nd's veterans, including Art Koura, became beloved and respected community leaders after WWII, validating that they had indeed broken through discriminatory racial barriers.

What happened to Japanese Americans during WWII provides a sobering lesson about what can happen when emotional

hyperbole drives governmental policy -- namely the loss of civil liberties and the intentional institutionalization of discrimination against a class of people.

It is increasingly important that we do not let fear uncategorically control our response to modern events such as the 9/11 attacks and the current global pandemic. We must do our best to remember that ancestry and race should not automatically incur discrimination and prejudice. The Woodwards provided a wonderful example for us to follow. Compassion is a powerful ally.

Nidoto Nai Yoni -- Let it Not Happen Again

Annotated Bibliography

Primary Sources

442nd Saves Unit "Newsreel Footage". Video file, 1:41. YouTube. Posted by U.S. Army, 21 July 2014. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PkoCCGXuHjw>. Accessed 5 December 2019.

This newsreel footage about the rescue of the "Lost Battalion" publicized the heroic efforts of Nisei soldiers of the 442nd that broke anti-Japanese sentiment in the United States.

After Silence: Civil Rights and the Japanese American Experience. Directed by Lois Shelton. 2003. Seattle: Floxglove Films Production, 2003. DVD

This is the story of Dr. Frank Kitamoto of Bainbridge Island, Washington, who spent 3-1/2 years interned as a child. As he and a group of high school students developed pictures from the time, they discussed how the evacuation and internment violated basic rights and how difficult it can be to stand up for what is right. It helped me to understand how the evacuees may have felt under the circumstances.

Chart of Potential Nisei Recruits From Inside and Outside Camps From the Memorandum to the Assistant Chief of Staff G-1 from R.A. Cutter, Colonel, General Staff Corps, Acting Executive Officer (page 9 of 12). Image. 11 November 1944. the442nd.org.

<http://www.the442.org/images.RG107Bos22F3.pdf>. Accessed 28 January 2020.

This chart illustrated the thinking of the Army in regard to where they could potentially obtain Japanese-American soldiers.

Executive Order 9066. Image. 19 February 1942. National Archives, DOCSteach.
<https://www.docsteach.org/documents/executive-order-9066>. Accessed 18 January 2020.

These images provided the complete wording of the order to remove and intern people of Japanese ancestry from the exclusion area on the west coast of the United States.

Loyalty Questionnaire, The. Image. 1943. Densho.org.
<https://encyclopedia.densho.org/sources/en-denshopd-p72-00004-1>. Accessed 29 January 2020.

This was the questionnaire that the internees were required to complete to determine their loyalty to the United States. The question of how to respond to questions 27 & 28 became a big topic of debate for many of the internees. Reading the questionnaire helped me to understand why many of the internees struggled with their answers and how it could feel like an added insult.

Masuda, Minoru. *Letters from the 442nd: The World War II Correspondence of a Japanese American Medic*. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2008.

This book of letters sent home from the war in Europe gave me a better understanding of the challenge of being so far away from home and being surrounded by the horrors of war.

"*Meeting a Member of the 'Lost Battalion' After the War - Fred Shiosaki*". Video file, 2:22. YouTube. Posted by Densho, 9 April 2015.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XWph_Skg9yE. Accessed 5 December 2019.

Mr. Shiosaki shared some of his experiences of his time spent fighting with the 442nd. This first-hand account helped me to begin to understand what fighting in WWII with the 442nd might have been like for the soldiers.

Moriwaki, Clarence. "*Let It Not Happen Again: Lessons of the Japanese American Exclusion*." Olympia, Washington. 19 June 2020. Videotaped.

Secretary of State, Ralph Munro, alerted me to this Humanities Washington presentation in Olympia, Washington. Mr. Moriwaki related how the 442nd Regimental Combat Team suffered horrendous casualties to rescue the "Lost Battalion". That publicity broke through some of the prejudice against Japanese Americans.

Munro, Ralph. Zoom interview. 12 May 2020.

Secretary of State Munro shared his memories of growing up on Bainbridge Island with children born in the internment camps as well as knowing Art Koura, member of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. His comments lent depth and analysis.

Takei, George. *They Called Us Enemy*. Marietta: Top Shelf Productions, 2019.

This personal account by George Takei about his family's internment when he was a young boy helped me to better understand how it must have felt for the Japanese families before, during, and after their evacuation and internment.

White House Letter Approving Organization of Combat Team Consisting of Loyal American Citizens of Japanese Descent. Image. 1 February 1943. the442nd.org. <http://www.the442.org/images/RG107b47f2b.pdf>. Accessed 20 January 2020.

This was the letter that President Roosevelt used to authorize the War Department to proceed with their proposal to "organize a combat team consisting of loyal American citizens of Japanese descent".

Woodward, Mary. *In Defense of Our Neighbors: The Walt and Milly Woodward Story*. Bainbridge Island: Fenwick Publishing Group, Inc., 2008.

This book by the Woodward's daughter Mary about her parents, who were the owners and operators of the Bainbridge Review during WWII, was a first hand account of what an extraordinary example ordinary people can set. The foresight of the Woodwards and their innate sense of the need for calm, understanding, and compassion toward their Japanese neighbors in the aftermath of the attack on Pearl Harbor set an example that few people can, or will, ever be able to achieve. This book provided me with the best understanding of why more evacuees felt safe enough to return to their homes on Bainbridge than in any other area in the evacuation zone.

"Editor at Large." *Honolulu Star-Bulletin (Honolulu, Hawaii)*. 28 August 1944.

Newspapers.com. https://www.newspapers.com/clip/42676049/honolulu_starbulletin/. Accessed 13 December 2020.

This newspaper column discussed how anti-Japanese sentiment on the west coast was waning and the belief by many that the removal and internment of people of Japanese ancestry may not have been the best course of action. It also touched on how the situation was different in Hawaii and that some of the displaced Japanese-American families had begun returning to their homes in the exclusion area.

"Jap-Americans Rescue Men of Lost Battalion." *Nevada State Journal (Reno, Nevada)* 8 November 1944. Newspapers.com.

https://www.newspapers.com/clip/43505940/nevada_state_journal/. Accessed 2 February 2020.

This newspaper article advertised the incredible success of the Nisei soldiers of the 442nd which helped raise awareness and change anti-Japanese sentiment in the United States.

"Loose Talk." 27 August 1944. *Democrat and Chronicle (Rochester, New York)*. Newspapers.com.

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/136387678/?terms=arthur%2Bkoura>. Accessed 13 December 2020.

This letter to the newspaper, written by Private Arthur Koura, provides evidence of American ignorance of the fact that Japanese-Americans were risking their lives for the U.S. by fighting alongside other American soldiers, and the frustration that caused Japanese-American citizens and soldiers.

"Loyal Japs Fight Well." *Democrat and Chronicle (Rochester, New York)*. 27 August 1944. Newspapers.com.

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/136387678/?terms=loyal%2Bjaps%2Bfight%2Bwell>. Accessed 13 December 2020.

This newspaper article helped educate American citizens about the fact that Japanese-American soldiers were loyal to the U.S. and were fighting as valiantly as other Americans.

"Many Decorations for Hunt Soldier." *The Times-News (Twin Falls, Idaho)*. 23 March 1945. Newspapers.com.

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/566295308/?terms=arthur%2Bkoura>. Accessed 20 January 2020.

This article reported about Private Koura of the 442nd recuperating in the hospital after being injured during battle and the many decorations he had received.

"Reporting on German Surrender." *Chattanooga News - Free Press*, Image. 7 May 1945. Museum Center at Five Points. <http://www.museumcenter.org/the-curious-curator/2019/11/14/world:war-ocoe-region>. Accessed 20 January 2020.

This newspaper front page heralded the news that the war against Germany had finally ended.

Primary Photo Credits

442nd Regimental Combat Team Advancing Toward Bruyeres, France, October 1944. U.S. Army Photo. Photograph. October, 1944. U.S. National Archives. <https://www.archives.gov/press/press-releases/2010/nr10-42.html>. Accessed 19 December 2019.

This photograph provided evidence of the 442nd in action in France.

Award List of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, May 1, 1946. Image. 1 May 1946. the442nd.org. http://www.the442.org/images/Award_List_-_May_1,_1946001.pdf. Accessed 20 January 2020.

This list of the many decorations the 442nd was awarded illustrated the valor that the team demonstrated in battle.

Battleship BB44, USS California Sinking During Pearl Harbor Attack, December 7, 1941. Photograph. 7 December 1941. Worldwarphotos.info. <https://www.worldwarphotos.info/gallery/usa/us-navy/california/battleship-uss-california-sinking-pearl-harbor-attack-7-december-1941>. Accessed 3 February 2020.

This photograph helped to demonstrate the brutality of the surprise Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

Civilian Exclusion Order #1. Image. 24 March 1942. Japanese American Veterans Association. http://www.javadc.org/java/docs/1942-03-24;%20WDC%20%20Civilian%20Exclusion%20Order%20No.%201,%20pg1_ay.pdf. Accessed 28 January 2020.

This image of the Exclusion Order for residents of Bainbridge Island helped me to understand how difficult it must have been for the evacuees to prepare to leave so quickly and the few possessions they were allowed to take with them.

Collage of 3 Pictures of the Japanese Evacuation from Bainbridge Island, Washington. Photograph. 30 March 1942. Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial. <http://bijaema.org/history-2/>. Accessed 3 February 2020.

This collection of pictures illustrated the evacuation of the Japanese residents of Bainbridge Island, Washington.

End of the Long Road. Elements of the Combat Team March Down Constitution Avenue, Washington, D.C., to Have the CT Colors Decorated by President Truman. Photograph. December 1946. the442.org. http://www.the442.org/images/Battle_Honors_-_442nd001.pdf. Accessed 13 December 2020.

This photograph helped to publicize the achievements of the Japanese-American fighting unit.

Granada Internment Camp. Photograph. Word Press. <https://documents1940.files.wordpress.com/2017.09/japanese-camp1.jpg?w+1100&h=729>. Accessed 13 December 2020.

This photograph provided an example of the size and desolation of the internment camps.

How Will We Rid the Coast of the Japs? Image. 1945. Densho Digital Repository. <https://ddr.densho.org/ddr-densho-35-365>. Accessed 31 January 2020.

This image demonstrated the anti-Japanese sentiment that was prevalent on the west coast before, during and after the war with Japan.

I Am an American Sign on a Japanese-American Store. Photograph. Encyclopedia Britannica. <https://www.britannica.com/event/Japanese-American-internment>. Accessed 25 January 2020.

This photograph helped to demonstrate the measures that Japanese-Americans felt compelled to take in attempts to express their patriotism amongst the racist and discriminatory atmosphere that was exacerbated by Japan's aggressive acts toward the United States.

Japanese-Americans Imprisoned at Santa Anita, California, Internment Camp, 1942. Photograph. 1942. Equal Justice Initiative. <https://eji.org/news/history-racial-injustice-forced-internment-of-japanese-americans>. Accessed 3 February 2020.

This photograph provided a visual perspective of Americans being imprisoned behind barbed wire due to their ancestry and how crowded the conditions could be.

Japanese Immigrants Awaiting Processing at the Federal Government's Immigrant Reception Center on San Francisco Bay's Angel Island During the 1920's. Photograph. National Archives and Records Administration. <http://immigrationtounitedstates.org/663-japanese-immigrants.html>. Accessed 19 December 2019.

This photograph provided a visual example of immigrants from Japan seeking better opportunities in the United States than they felt Japan could provide them.

Japanese Immigrants on Ship. Photograph. Japanese American Museum of Oregon.
<http://www.oregonnikkei.org/exhibit/images/steamship.jpg>. Accessed 26 January 2020.

This photograph provided a visual example of how a ship heading to America with Japanese immigrants may have looked.

Japanese View of the Pearl Harbor Attack, December 7, 1941. Photograph. December 7, 1941. Military.com. <https://www.military.com/navy/pearl-harbor-first-attack.html>. Accessed 3 February 2020.

This photograph provided a birds-eye view from a Japanese bomber's plane of the Japan's surprise attack taking place at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.

Japs Keep Moving - This is a White Man's Neighborhood. Photograph. AsAmNews.com. <https://asamnews.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Anti-Japanese-racism.jpg>. Accessed 18 January 2020.

This photograph provided another example of the rampant anti-Japanese sentiment on the west coast before, during and after the war with Japan.

Lange, Dorothea. *Henry Mitarai, Age 35, Successful Large-scale Farm Operator with His Family on Their Ranch About Six Weeks Before Evacuation. Mountain View, California, 1942*. Photograph. 1942. National Veterans Network. <https://nationalveteransnetwork.com/cominghome.shtml>. Accessed 3 February 2020.

This photograph provided visual evidence of how similar a successful Japanese-American farming family was to farming families of other ethnicities.

Men of the 100th/442nd RCT March into Vada, Italy, July of 1944. Photograph. July 1944. Sons and Daughters of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. <https://442sd.org>. Accessed 3 February 2020.

This photograph helped show the conditions the soldiers of the 442nd experienced during their time fighting in Italy.

Pacific Citizen - Special Pictorial Section of Returning 442nd. Photograph. Japanese American Veterans Association. <https://java.wildapricot.org/Nisei-Legacy>. Accessed 30 January 2020.

This photograph showed the triumphant return to the U.S. of the Nisei soldiers of the 442nd.

President Honors Nisei Troops During Ceremonies Here July 15. Photograph. 15 July 1945. Getty Images. <https://gettyimages.com/details/news-photo/during-ceremonies-here-july-15-president-harry-s-truman-news-photo/515546346>. Accessed 28 January 2020.

This photograph illustrated the President's acknowledgement of the success of the all Nisei regiment.

Private Arthur Koura of the 442nd RCT, 3rd Battalion, Company L. Photograph. Bainbridge Review. <https://www.bainbridgereview.com/news/remembering-art-koura-the-meanderline/>. Accessed 24 November 2020.

This portrait showed Private Koura in his uniform during his time in the 442nd.

Soldiers of the 442nd at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. Photograph. Hawaii Reporter. <http://www.hawaiiireporter.com/442nd-regimental-combat-team/>. Accessed 28 January 2020.

This photograph showed just a few of the many Nisei that served in the 442nd at Camp Shelby where they were sent for training.

Uncle Sam Blocking the Flow of Oil. Photograph of comic. Quora.com. <https://www.quora.com/Why-didJapan-bomb-Pearl-Harbor-Did-they-know-the-USA-was-going-to-attack-them>. Accessed 20 January 2020.

This comic illustrated the main reason Imperial Japan declared war on the United States.

Walt and Milly Woodward With a Copy of the Bainbridge Review, 1945. Photograph. 1945. Kitsap Regional Libraby. <https://www.krl.org/kitsap-history>. Accessed 3 February 2020.

This photograph showed that two true American heroes can look like typical everyday folks.

Secondary Sources

100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Education Center. <http://www.100thbattalion.org/>. Accessed 24 November 2019.

I utilized this website numerous times as it provided access to useful photographs, quotes and battle information to help me understand the role of the 100th in World War II.

442 Regimental Combat Team Legacy Website. <http://www.the442.org/>. Accessed 5 December 2019.

This website provided invaluable insight for my project through its photographs, archived documents, timelines, quotes and award information. I accessed this website numerous times as well.

Bainbridge Island Review. <https://www.bainbridgereview.com/>. Accessed 24 November 2019.

The article "Remembering Art Koura" was one of the first pieces of information I found that provided the direction for my project by tying a Bainbridge Islander to the 442nd, giving me the desired connections of the first evacuation area (Bainbridge Island) and a Nisei that joined the 442nd from an internment camp (Art Koura) who would return home to Bainbridge after the war to live a successful and productive life as a community leader.

Bainbridge Review - War Extra! Image. Scan of a picture from "In Defense of Our Neighbors, The Walt and Milly Woodward Story" by Mary Woodward.

I scanned this picture from my copy of the book to use as an illustration of the Woodward's foresight of the potential war hysteria induced racism toward their neighbors of Japanese ancestry.

Densho. <https://densho.org/>. Accessed 24 November 2019.

I made excessive use of this amazing website, accessing timelines, oral histories, photographs, and more information about the evacuation, internment, and its aftermath than one can possibly comprehend. I highly recommend visiting the Densho website for more information about this subject.

Discover Nikkei. <http://www.discovernikkei.org/en/>. Accessed 13 December 2019.

Nikkei are Japanese emigrants and their descendants who have created communities throughout the world. This site is a project of the Japanese American National Museum and is a community website about Nikkei identity, history and experiences, providing an inviting space for the community to share, explore, and connect with each other through experiences, culture, and history. I utilized this site to learn more about individual experiences of evacuation, internment and reintegration.

Duus, Masayo Umezawa. *Unlikely Liberators: The Men of the 100th and 442nd*. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 1987.

This book went into great detail about the battles of the 100th Battalion and 442nd Regimental Combat Team. It helped to reinforce my belief that the Nisei soldiers were very honorable and determined men.

A Flicker in Eternity: based on the diary and letters of Stanley Hayami. Directed by Ann Kaneko and Sharon Yamato, 2011. Production information unknown, 2011. DVD

I acquired this DVD on my visit to the Bainbridge Island Historical Museum. It tells the story of a young Nisei from Southern California that was interned with his family until he joined the army as part of the 442nd and died in their final battle of the war. The story is told through his drawings and journal entries from the time. It helped me to

understand the impact of the evacuation and internment on the Japanese families and how much they all had taken from them. It also helped me to understand how difficult a decision it would have been to choose to fight for a country that imprisoned my family behind barbed wire.

Go for Broke National Education Center. <http://www.goforbroke.org/>. Accessed 5 December 2019.

The "Go for Broke National Education Center" is located in Los Angeles, California. "Go for Broke" was the motto of the 442nd RCT. The website provided great educational resources and online exhibits. I mostly utilized the oral histories for my project.

"*Go for Broke Song*". Video file, 2:47. YouTube. Posted by armylawjag, date unknown. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tzspwKGhz0w>. Accessed 5 December 2019.

I included this clip of the 442nd's fight song in my project to help illustrate the bravado displayed by the team.

Japanese-American Internment Camps. Image. Encyclopedia Britannica. <https://www.britannica.com/event/Japanese-American-internment>. Accessed 26 January 2020.

This map image showed the extent of the west coast exclusion zone and the locations of the internment camps where the evacuees were sent.

Japanese American Veterans Association. <https://java.wildapricot.org/>. Accessed 19 December 2019.

JAVA is an organization dedicated to educating people about the Japanese American experience during World War II and its legacy, and remembering and protecting veterans. I used this site mainly to research 442nd veteran records.

Map of Bainbridge, Washington. Image. Bing.com.

<https://www.bing.com/search?q=bainbridge+island+japanese+american+exclusion+memorial&form=EDGTCT&q=PF&cvid=bfa9ca58d2f64a7a830344f7406f8091&refig=e8cde73f9153414a9d33c457ead79745&cc=US&setlang=en-US&plvar=0&PC=SMTS>. Accessed 21 January 2020.

I provided this map of the location of Bainbridge Island in relation to the state of Washington to illustrate where it is located for anyone viewing my website that might be unfamiliar with my home state.

Map of Campaigns. Image. 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Education Center.

<http://www.100thbattalion.org/learn/campaigns-map/>. Accessed 5 December 2019.

I included this map to illustrate where the 100th Battalion/442nd Regimental Combat Team engaged in major battles.

Map of Japanese Occupation of the Philippines - WW2. Image. Dead Country Stamps and Banknotes. <http://www.dcstamps.com/japanese-occupation-of-the-philippines-ww2/>. Accessed 2 February 2020.

I provided this map to illustrate the plans that the Japanese Empire had to expand their territory, which eventually led to the war between Japan and the United States.

McGaugh, Scott. *Honor Before Glory: The Epic World War II Story of the Japanese American GIs Who Rescued the Lost Battalion.* Boston: Da Capo Press, 2016.

This book detailing the 442nd Regimental Combat Team's rescue of the "Lost Battalion" of Texas soldiers provided me with additional examples of the valor displayed by the Japanese American men. This unit of Nisei soldiers were able to accomplish heroic feats that other units had been unable to.

Nisei, Japanese American Soldiers in World War II (The). Video file, 6:28. Posted by DEVGRU5022, April 29, 2016.

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=youtube+the=nisei%2c+japanese+american+soldiers+in+world+war+ii&view=detail&mid=B24CEO38C68AD37DDD6AB24CE038C68AD37DDD6A&FORM=VIRE>. Accessed 24 November 2020.

This is a short but impressive synopsis of the amazing accomplishments of the 442nd RCT that helped to ignite my interest in researching the story of the 442nd.

Pearl Harbor Visitors Bureau. <https://visitpearlharbor.org/>. Accessed 19 December 2019.

I accessed this Pearl Harbor website to obtain the dead and wounded statistics from the surprise Japanese attack on December 7, 1941.