

## **Frank Hartwell Hertz**

Co. B/G 136th Infantry Regiment  
33rd Infantry Division  
United States Army  
21 April 1942 - 29 January 1946



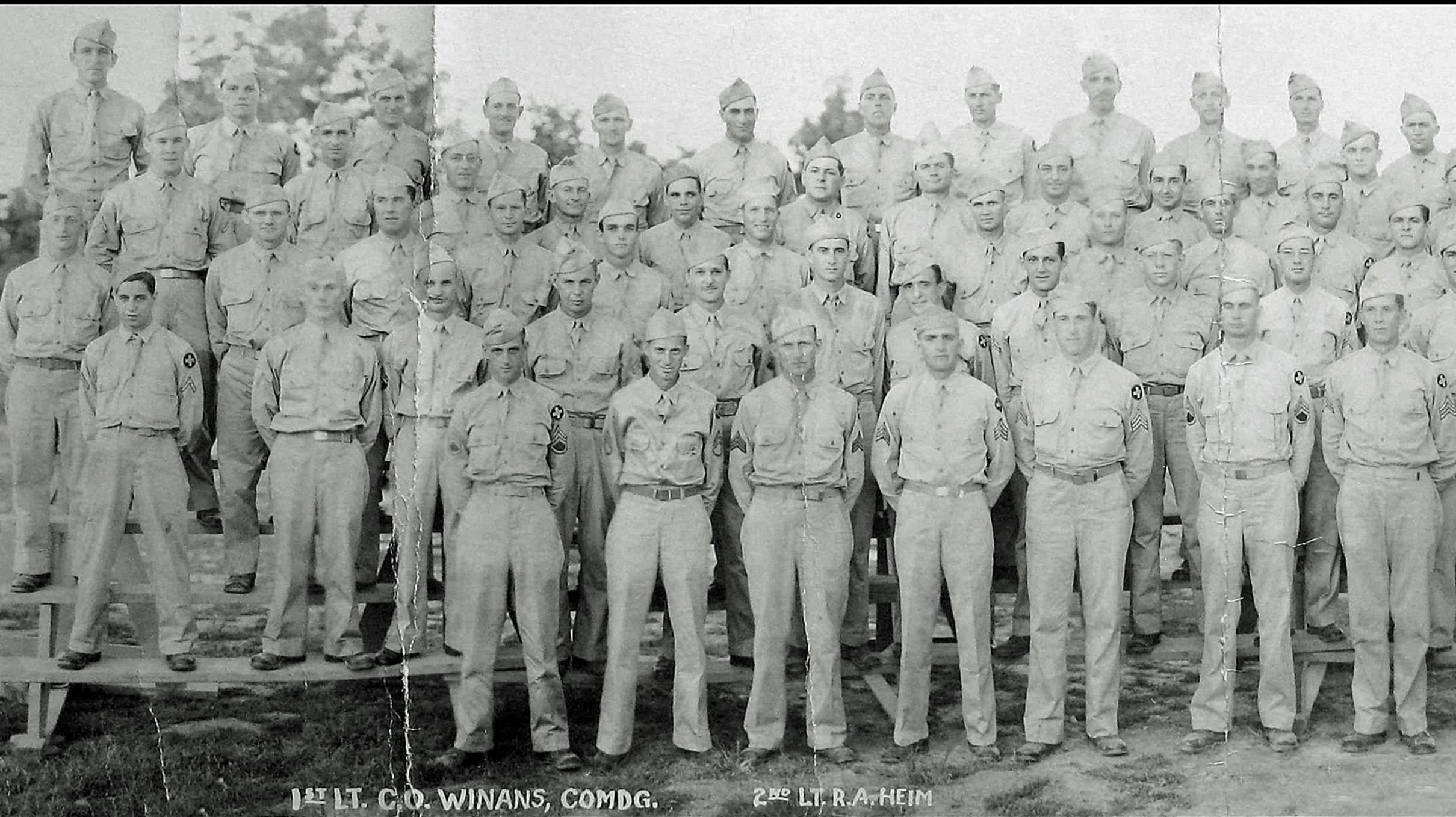
**Our Debt to the heroic men  
and valiant women in the  
service of our country can  
never be repaid. They have  
earned our undying  
gratitude. America will  
never forget their sacrifices.**

**President Harry S. Truman**



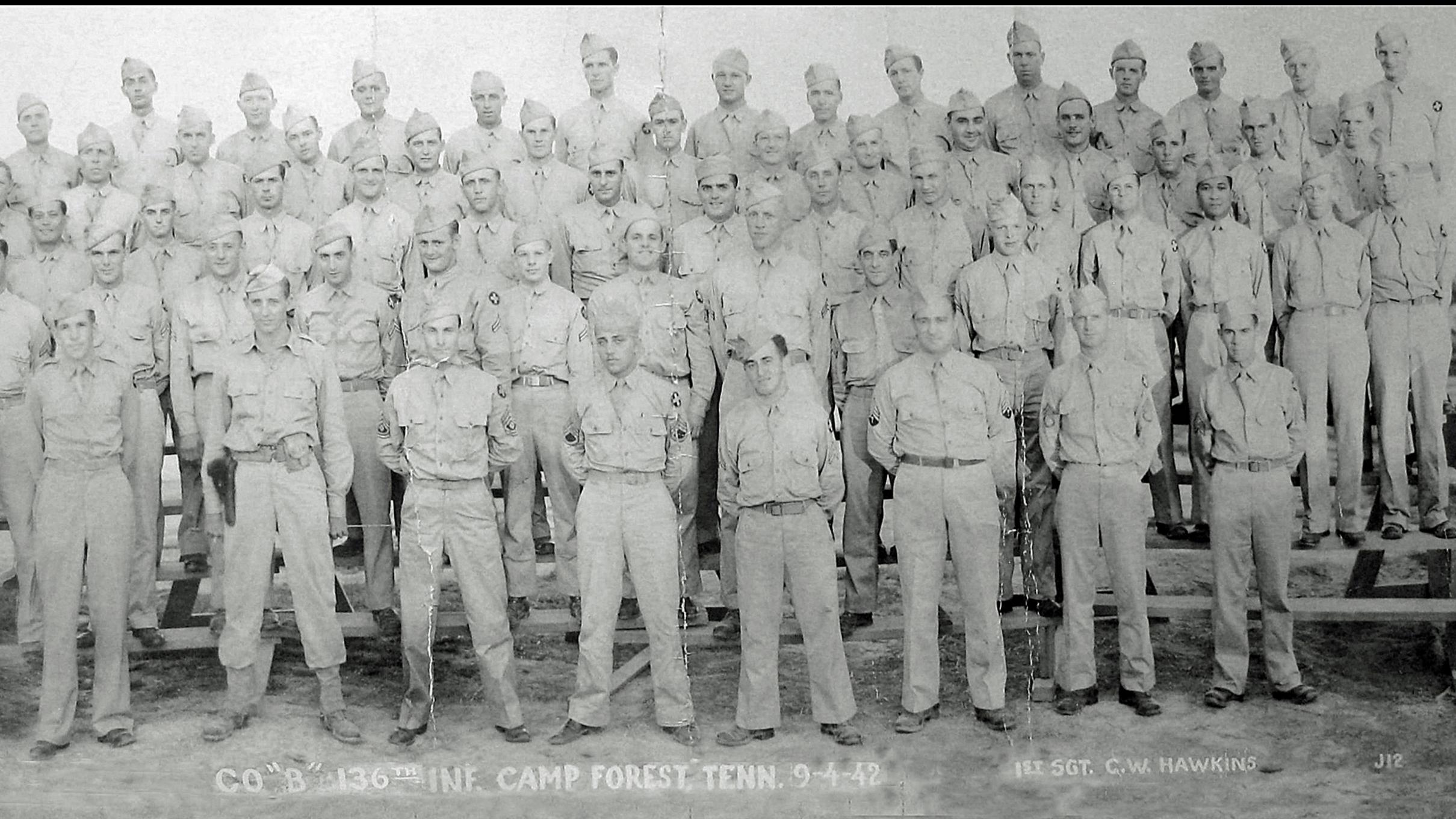


33rd Division during WWII (1942 -1946)



1<sup>st</sup> LT. C.O. WINANS, COMDG.

2<sup>nd</sup> LT. R.A. HEIM



Frank Hartwell Hertz -- Fourth row back, 8th from the right



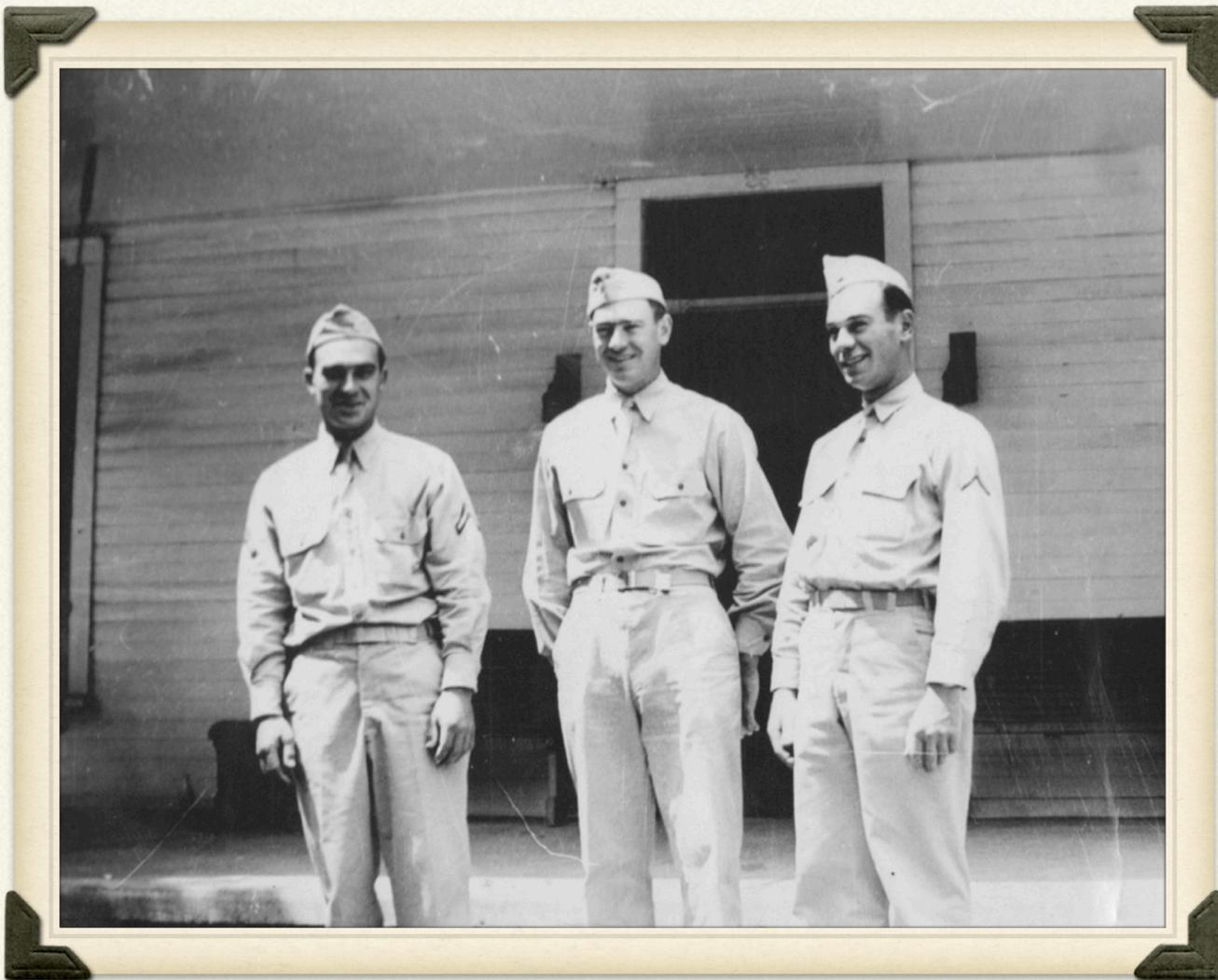
## **Fort Sheridan**

Fort Sheridan, Illinois  
21 April 1942  
Army Enlistment Center

## **Camp Forrest**

Tullahoma, Tennessee  
April 1942 - September 1942  
Assigned to Co. B, First Battalion, 136th Infantry, 33rd Division

Training Included:  
Basic infantry skills  
Conditioning marches up to 35 miles  
Rifle instruction with an emphasis on marksmanship  
Close combat courses



Left: Hertz brothers at Camp Forrest - Floyd, Hartwell and Elwin  
Top Right : Camp Forrest main gate  
Bottom Right : Rifle range at Camp Forrest



## **Fort Lewis**

Tacoma, Washington  
September 1942 - March 1943

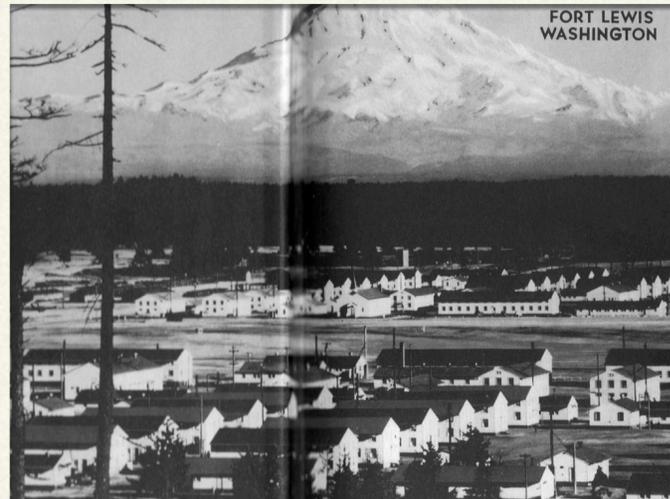
Fort Lewis, with its mud and rain, prepared the division for the jungles of Morotai;  
and the rugged terrain provided a preview of the mountain fighting of Luzon.

Training Included:

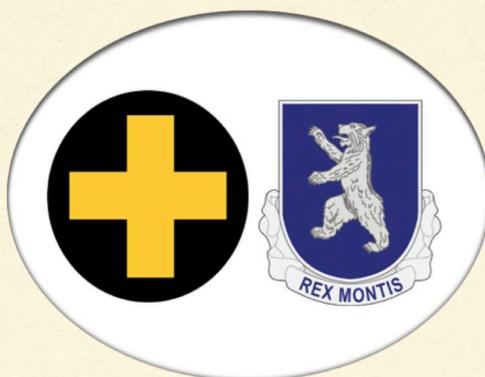
Extensive firing range programs

Advanced tactical skills

Demolition, anti-tank weapons, chemical warfare and intelligence programs



Left: Sergeant Frank Hertz  
Top Right: Main gate at Fort Lewis  
Bottom Right: View of barracks and Mt. Rainier



## **Camp Clipper**

Mojave Desert Training Center  
40 miles outside Needles, California  
March 1943 - June 1943

The division was being trained for combat in North Africa. At the time the war department thought the African campaign was going to be a drawn out campaign that would need additional troops.

### Training Included:

Physical hardening - long marches with water/light/sound discipline  
Preparing for desert situations - heat, lack of cover and little water  
Combat against armored vehicles and tanks  
Tank hunting, laying/detection/removal of mines and booby traps  
Range firing, close combat and infiltration courses



Left: GI inspection 16 May 1943  
Top Right: Close combat training  
Bottom Right: Firing range



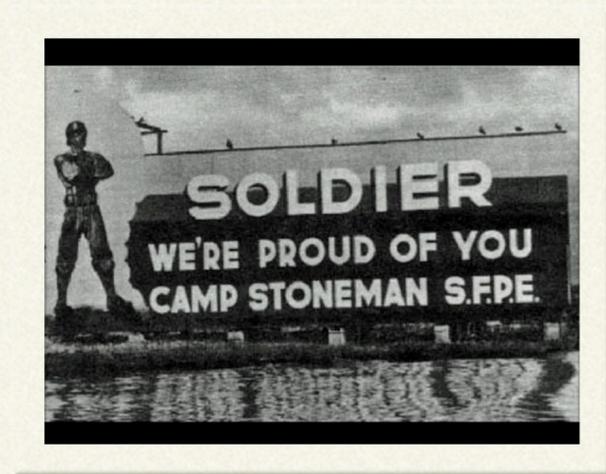
## **Camp Stoneman**

Pittsburg, California

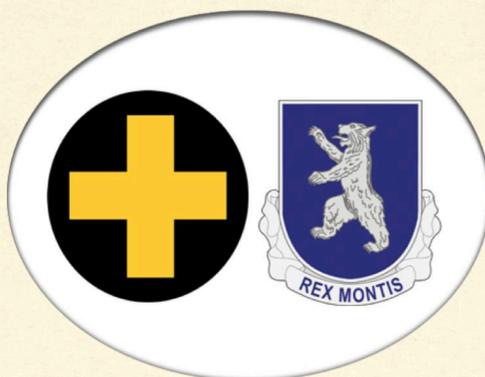
June 1943 - 5 July 1943

USAT Fred C. Ainsworth set sail for Hawaii on 5 July 1943

Camp Stoneman, located 40 miles outside San Francisco, was the main port of embarkation for troops heading to the Pacific Theater. The main function of the post was to receive and process troops for overseas service. This consisted of completing paperwork and updating records, arranging last minute training, providing medical and dental care, issuing equipment, teaching orientation courses designed for overseas-bound troops and providing specialized training to prepare them for fighting in the South Pacific.



Left: USAT Fred C. Ainsworth  
Top Right: Billboard at Camp Stoneman  
Bottom Right: Troop quarters on a transport ship



## **Hawaii**

Island of Maui and Molokai  
10 July 1943 - 30 April 1944

USAT Monterey set sail for New Guinea on 30 April 1944

The 136th Infantry was assigned to defend Maui. Upon arrival the first battalion was transferred from Maui to Molokai. Island defense was the top priority until January 1944 when the Marshall Islands were secured. Once these were secured, the division's attention turned to training. In April the 136th moved to Honolulu to depart for New Guinea.

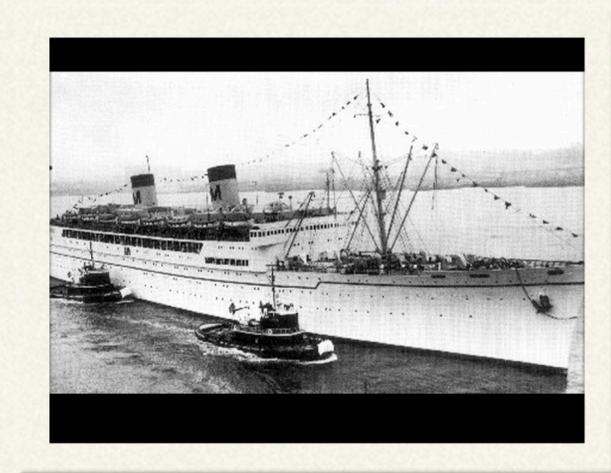
Training Included:

Jungle training

Amphibious training

Expert infantryman testing

Combat courses and city street fighting in mock Japanese villages



Left: Staff Sergeant Frank Hertz with a Japanese Type 92 machine gun

Top Right: Map of Hawaiian Islands

Bottom Right: USAT Monterey



### **Jungle Training (Maui)**

January 1944 - February 1944

Jungle training assistant instructor, 12 March 1944 - 16 April 1944

This training taught how to live and fight in the jungle. It included hip firing instruction, destruction of enemy pill boxes, hand to hand fighting, bayonet assault, demolition charges, flamethrower instruction and stream crossings. Training ended with a 3 day jungle warfare exercise under combat conditions against Japanese pillboxes and a defense installation manned by "enemy" troops.

### **Amphibious Training (Maui)**

February 1944 - March 1944

This training consisted of shore to shore movements and beach landings using amphibious vehicles. It included instruction on boarding landing craft from cargo nets, deploying along the beach and reorganizing inland. Training ended with a one day landing against defenses patterned after the Japanese defenses on Tarawa. The exercise included a beach landing, advancing inland up a steep ridge of volcanic rock and destruction of pillboxes along the ridge.



Top Left: Combat course  
Top Right: Hip firing with 30-caliber machine guns  
Bottom Left: Training in hand to hand fighting  
Bottom Right: Troops in LCVs preparing to land on Maui's Kihei Beach

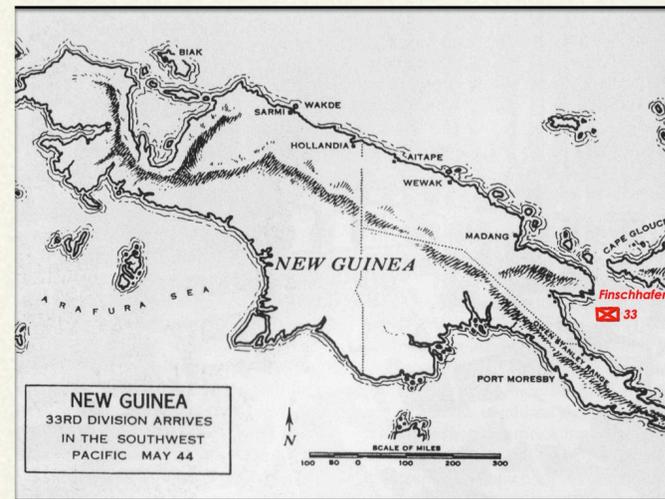
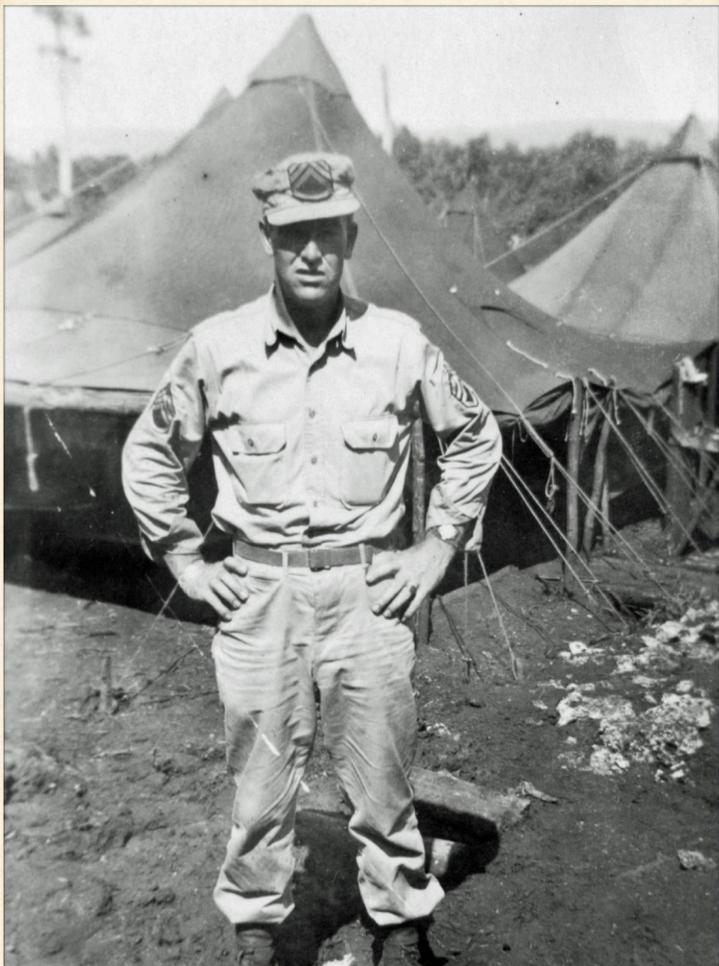


## **New Guinea**

Finschhafen, Huon Peninsula  
15 May 1944 - 9 December 1944  
LSTs set sail for Morotai on 9 December 1944

The division continued training once they arrived on New Guinea. In June the division was assigned to dock duty at Dreger Harbor. This included breaking down stateside supplies for forward operational units. The division rotated between training and 24-hours-a-day dock work.

Training Included:  
Basic combat training  
Advanced amphibious training  
Expert infantryman testing



Left: Staff Sergeant Frank Hertz  
Top Right: Map of New Guinea  
Bottom Right: Army LST loaded with troops



### **Advanced Amphibious Training**

26 June 1944 - 29 July 1944

This training covered all amphibious phases of a beach landing.

The first phase started with dry-land instruction on waterproofing vehicles/equipment/artillery and the boarding and debarking from landing crafts. Water instruction followed and covered beach landings. The first phase ended with a landing at Fortification Point from LCIs followed by a 2 day combat exercise. Assault troops hit the beach and advanced inland then shore parties unloaded landing crafts and established supply dumps to service the advancing troops.

The second phase was the attack transport ship (APA) phase. The battalion was loaded onto APAs for 3 days of training aboard the ship. Instruction included how to load artillery and equipment onto LCVPs. This phase ended with a landing at Fortification Point. The APAs anchored 3 miles off the coast and loaded the LCVPs for a beach assault. The battalion landed in waves and advanced inland on a 3 day combat exercise to secure the battalion objective.



Left: Troops practicing climbing cargo nets  
Top right: Troops debarking an Army LCI  
Bottom Right: Troops boarding LCVPs from an attack transport ship

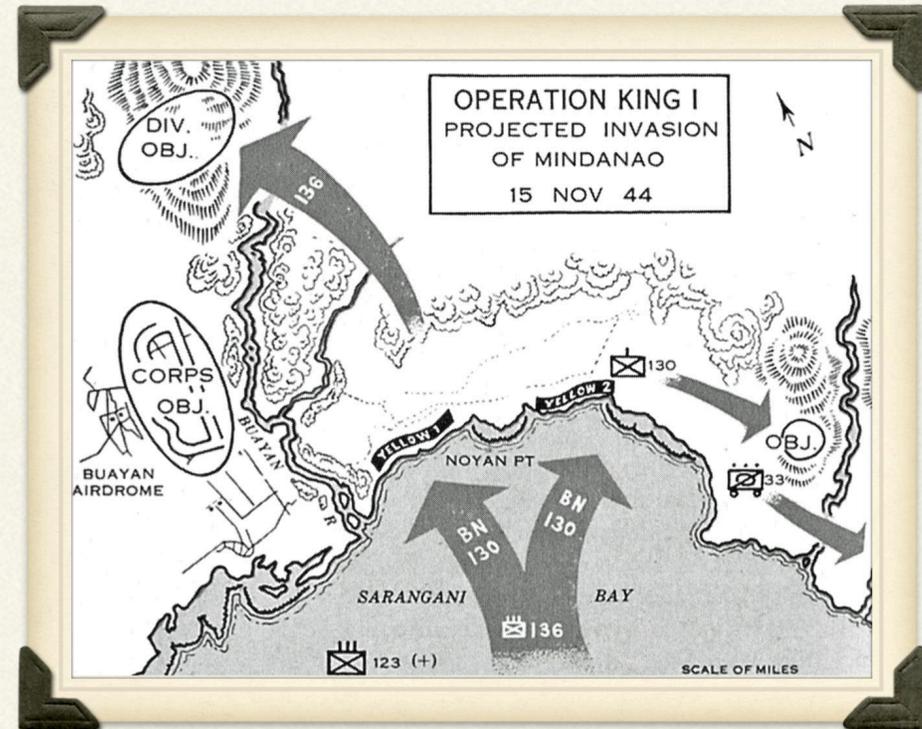


## **Operation King I**

Invasion of Mindanao  
15 November 1944

This was to be the first landing in the campaign to retake the Philippines. The division planned to land at Sarangani Bay in southern Mindanao. The 130th infantry was to land and secure the beachhead. Twenty minutes after the 130th landed the 136th infantry was to hit the beach, advance past the 130th and seize the division's initial objective: a mountain six miles north of the beach.

Operation King I was abandoned after air and naval assaults reduced the strength of the Japanese forces on Leyte. Leyte was invaded on 21 October 1944.



Left: Map showing New Guinea, the Moluccas Islands and the Philippines  
 Right: Invasion plan for Operation King I



## **Morotai**

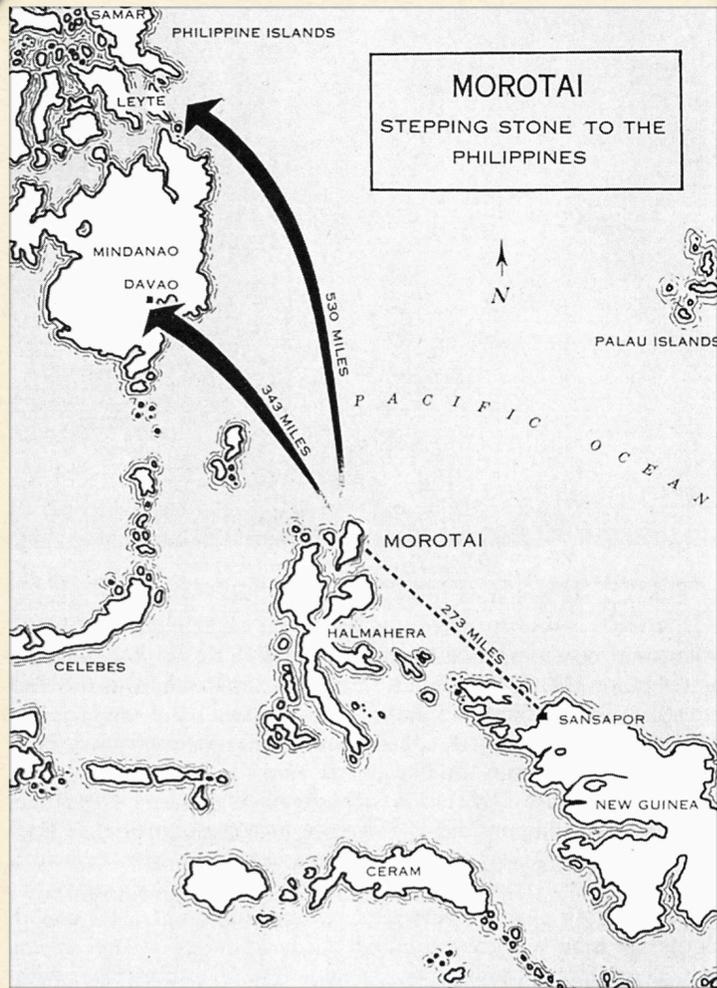
Indonesia's Maluku Islands

Gila Peninsula

22 December 1944 - 1 February 1945

Attack Transport Ships and LSTs set sail for Luzon on 1 February 1945

The 33rd division was sent to reinforce the 31st division, who had landed on Morotai in September without opposition. Captured enemy documents indicated the Japanese planned to attack US forces on the Gila Peninsula and take back Morotai. The Japanese had moved troops from neighboring islands to Morotai and they assembled on Hill 40 in preparation for an offensive. When the 33rd division arrived they were given the task of cleaning out the Japanese on Hill 40. The 1st and 2nd battalion left the Gila Peninsula on 26 December for Pilowo. The Morotai jungle was hot, humid and dense which made for movement of supplies and equipment a slow and difficult process.



Left: Map showing Morotai  
Right: LSTs unloading cargo and troops on Morotai

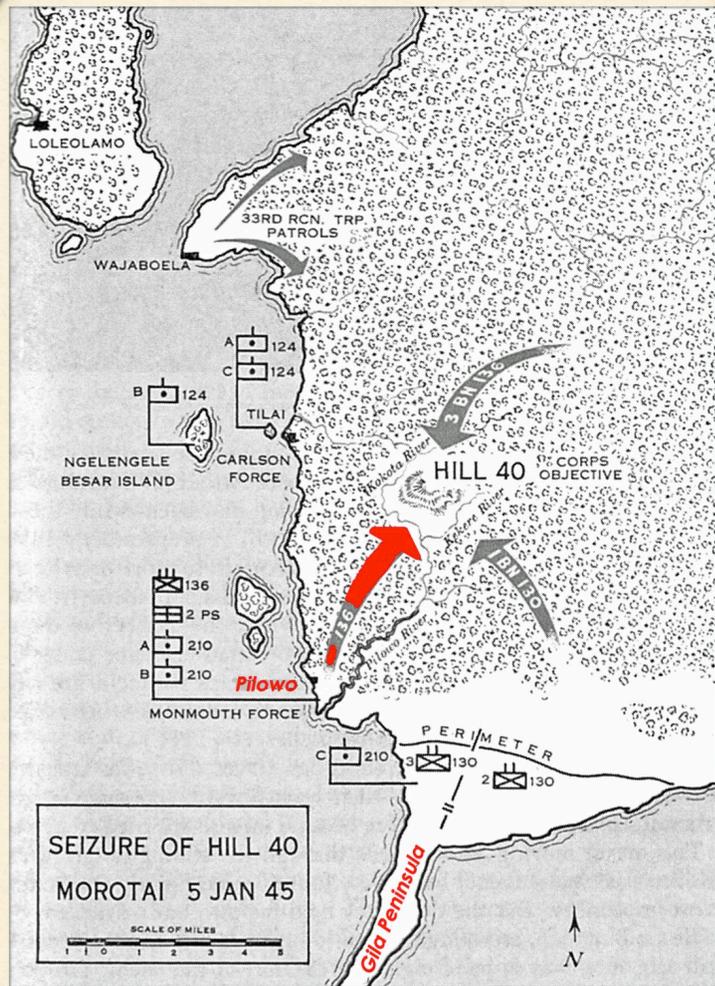


## **Morotai - Battle for Hill 40**

30 December 1945 - 5 January 1945

A 1st Battalion reconnaissance patrol met Japanese resistance on 30 December 1945 at the base of Hill 40. On 3 January the 1st and 2nd Battalion launched a coordinated attack on Hill 40. The Japanese had entrenched defenses and the troops encountered heavy small arms fire and snipers as they advanced. The dense jungle and supply problems made for a difficult fight. On 4 January the 1st and 2nd continued up Hill 40 shooting snipers to advance and using hand grenades on Japanese entrenchments. That night they called in artillery on the enemy positions further up the hill. Company B awoke on 5 January to a 9 man Banzai attack that was stopped 10 yards from the battalion position. The 1st and 2nd continued the fight up Hill 40 and encountered heavy machine gun fire from concealed Japanese positions. Once past the machine guns they rushed the remaining Japanese soldiers and cleared Hill 40.

The Morotai campaign officially ended on 14 January 1945.



Left: Map of Morotai showing troop advancement on Hill 40  
Right: The dense jungle of Morotai



## Luzon

Philippine Islands

10 February 1945 - 19 September 1946

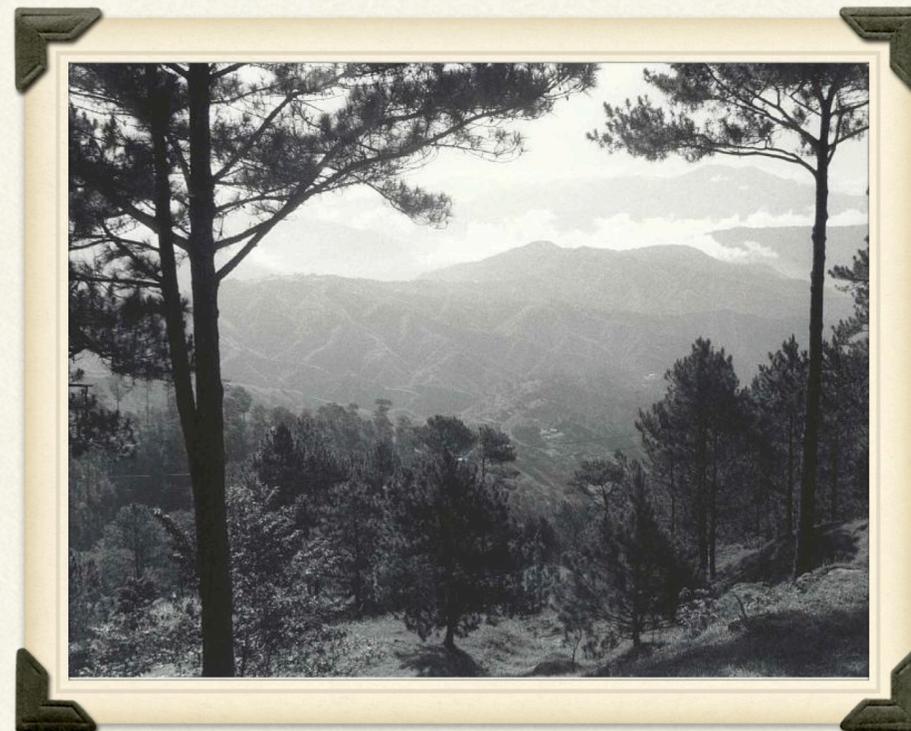
Attack Transport Ships and LSTs set sail for Japan on 19 February 1945

Luzon would be the most indicative campaign of the Pacific War. Victory on Luzon would lead to a victory over Japan. Anything less could mean a drawn-out stalemate. After 4 years of preparation the 33rd Division was ready to become a part of the Pacific "big picture". The 33rd fought on the north end of the island in the mountains. It was Morotai again, but this time with 7,000-foot high hills.

On 15 February the 136th secured the Pozorrubio Sector, which formed the 33rd Division's right flank. The 136th would be part of the battles for Kennon Road, Skyline Ridge and Dingalan Bay until 1 June. On 13 June Frank Hertz received a combat commission to 2nd Lieutenant and was assigned to Company G on 17 June. On 30 June the 33rd Division was taken off operational status. The 136th moved from Baguio to Bauang for amphibious training and to prepare for the invasion of Japan.







Left: Landing at San Fabian  
Right: The mountains of Luzon

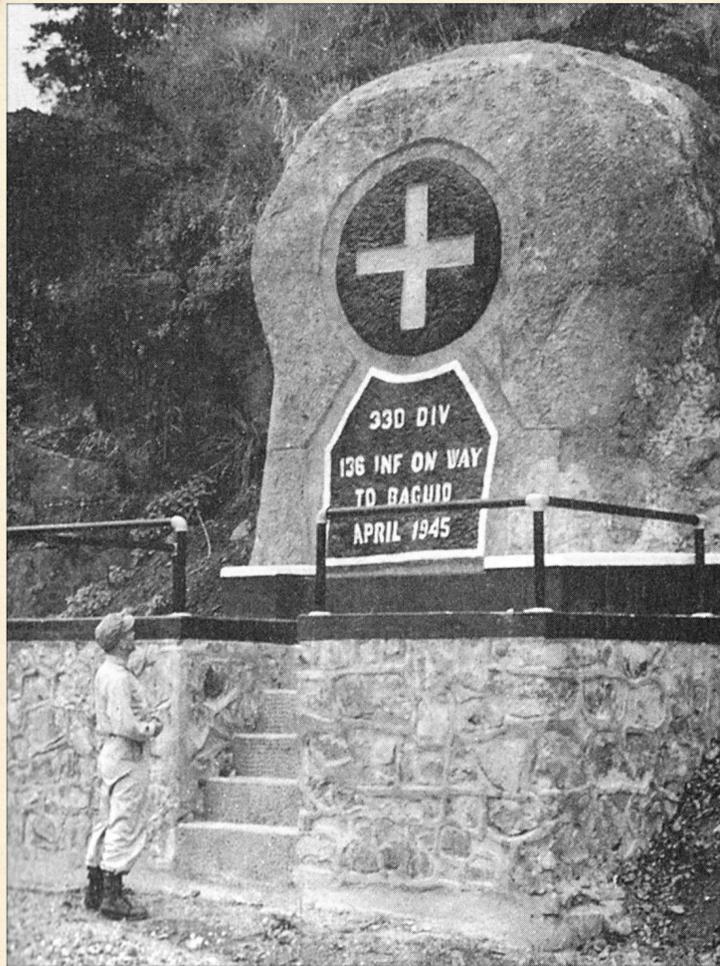


## **Luzon - Battle for Kennon Road**

March 1945 - April 1945

Company B was part of the fight for Bue Bue from 10 March to 19 March. After Bue Bue they conducted long range recon and support along Kennon Road until being sent to Camp One for rest after weeks of fighting.

Bue Bue was a heavily defended 3,700-foot high hill along Kennon Road. The Japanese used this hill as an observation post. On 10 March Company B arrived at the western foot of Bue Bue. The initial assault on Bue Bue was a single platoon expecting a small observation post not a heavily defended position. The platoon was stopped and returned to the base of the hill. Company B patrolled the base of Bue Bue until 17 March when it attempted to take Bue Bue again. For 2 days the company fought its way up the mountain, but was stopped. On 18 March Company C relieved Company B and they returned to the base of Bue Bue at Pell Mell Creek. Company C was unable to take Bue Bue as well and on 19 March the 136th was ordered to bypass the hill. Bue Bue wasn't secured until April.



Left: Monument to the 136th along Kennon Road  
Top Right: View of the mountains along Kennon Road  
Bottom Right: Cliffs lining Kennon Road



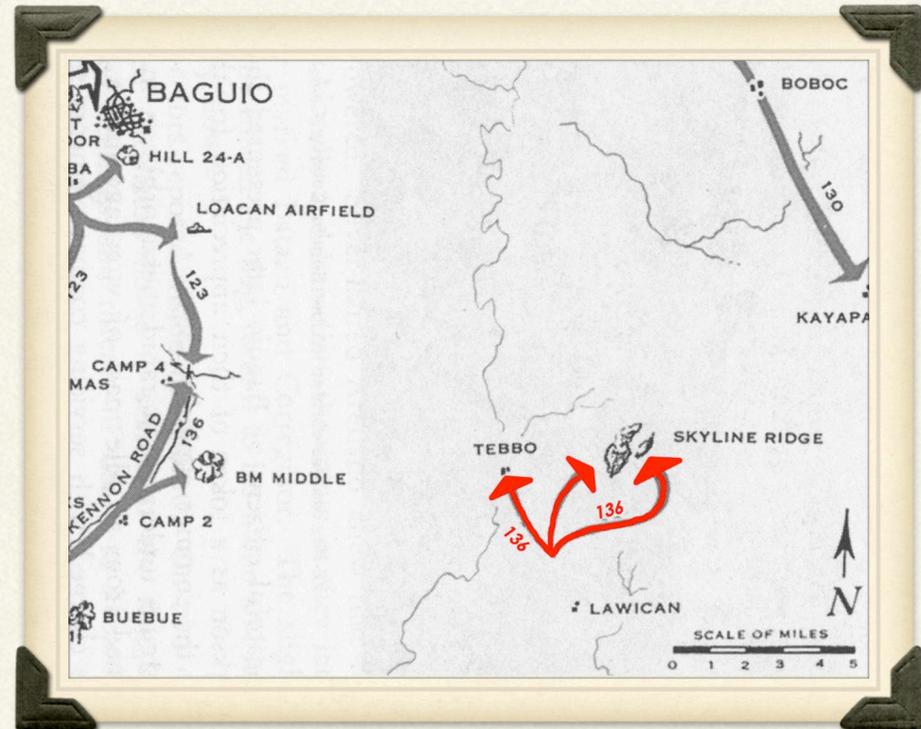
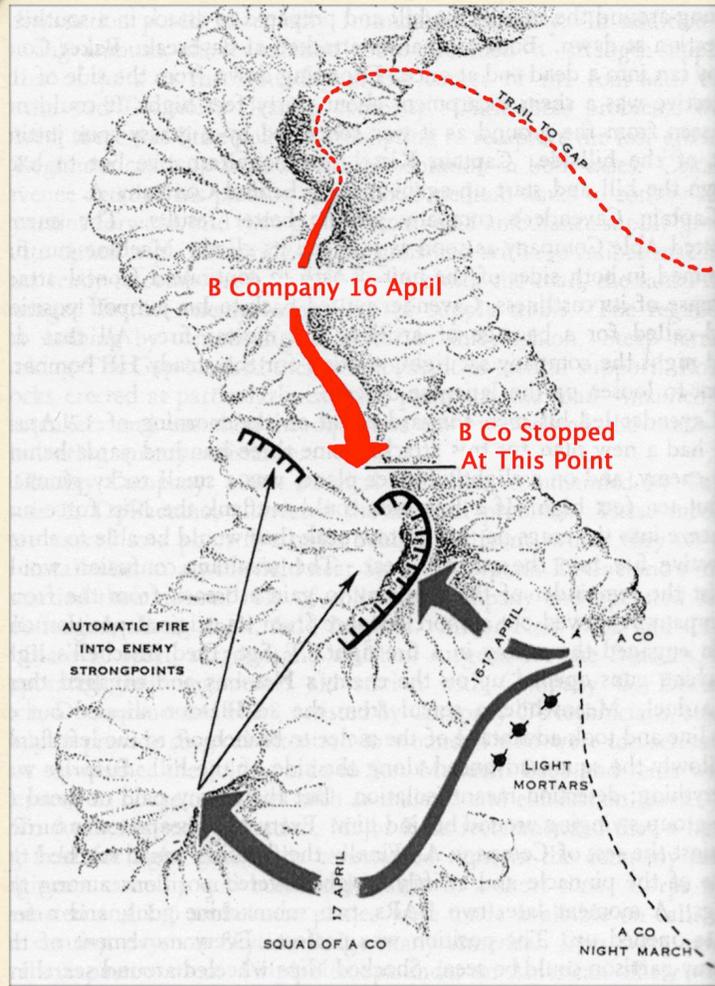
## **Luzon - Battle for Skyline Ridge**

11 April 1945 - 24 May 1945

On 11 April the 136th First Battalion arrived at the Gap and dug in on the West side.

The Gap was a jeep trail to Tebbo along the Ambayabung River. There were ridgelines on either side of the Gap, the ridge to the East contained Skyline Ridge.

On 16 April Company A and B were sent to take the western ridge as the first stage of securing the Gap. The Company B attack was stopped by the terrain and they had to circle back around and start up the ridge behind Company A. Company A secured the western ridge on 17 April. On 21 April Company B moved to East side of the Gap to the ridge across from Skyline Ridge and began defensive Patrolling. Company B left the Gap on 1 May for an assault on Tebbo. As they crossed the Agno River they ran into heavy Japanese machine gun fire and mortars. They fought all day under heavy fire and returned to the Gap that night. On 3 May Company A and G advanced on Skyline Ridge. Skyline Ridge was secured on 4 May and Company B was sent in to mop up any remaining Japanese Forces. Company B was sent to Tebbo on 5 May as reserve and all forces left for Baguio on 24 May.



Left: Map of Company A and B assault west of Gap 16 April  
 Right: Map of 136th Infantry assaults from the Gap

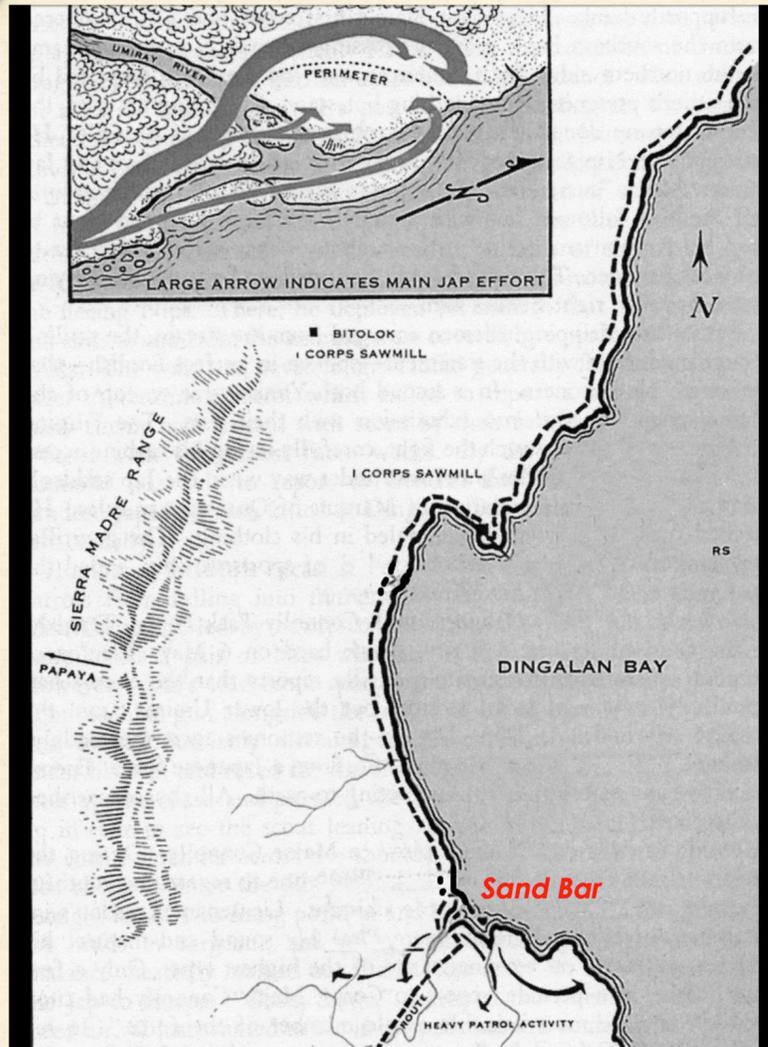


## **Luzon - Battle for Dingalan Bay**

17 May 1945 - 30 May 1945

Dingalan Bay was a reorganization area and escape route to northern Luzon for the defeated Japanese forces of the south. It was also home to two large sawmills for the US forces. On 13 April the 33rd Division 123rd Infantry was sent to secure the sawmills and prevent southern Japanese forces from reinforcing the north.

On 17 May the First Battalion of the 136th relieved the 123rd infantry. Company B was stationed on the sand bar at the mouth of the Umiray River. The Japanese continuously attacked the sand bar in an effort to get the US supplies located there. Company B easily defeated the poorly organized Japanese assaults. Company B was given amphibious vehicles and took the fight to the known Japanese assembly areas along the coast. They surprised the Japanese and had great success with these amphibious patrols. Company B quickly became known within the First Battalion as the Butchers of the Bay. On 30 May the First Battalion was ordered back to Baguio and they arrived at Camp John Hay on 1 June.



Map of Dingalan Bay



## **Operation Olympic**

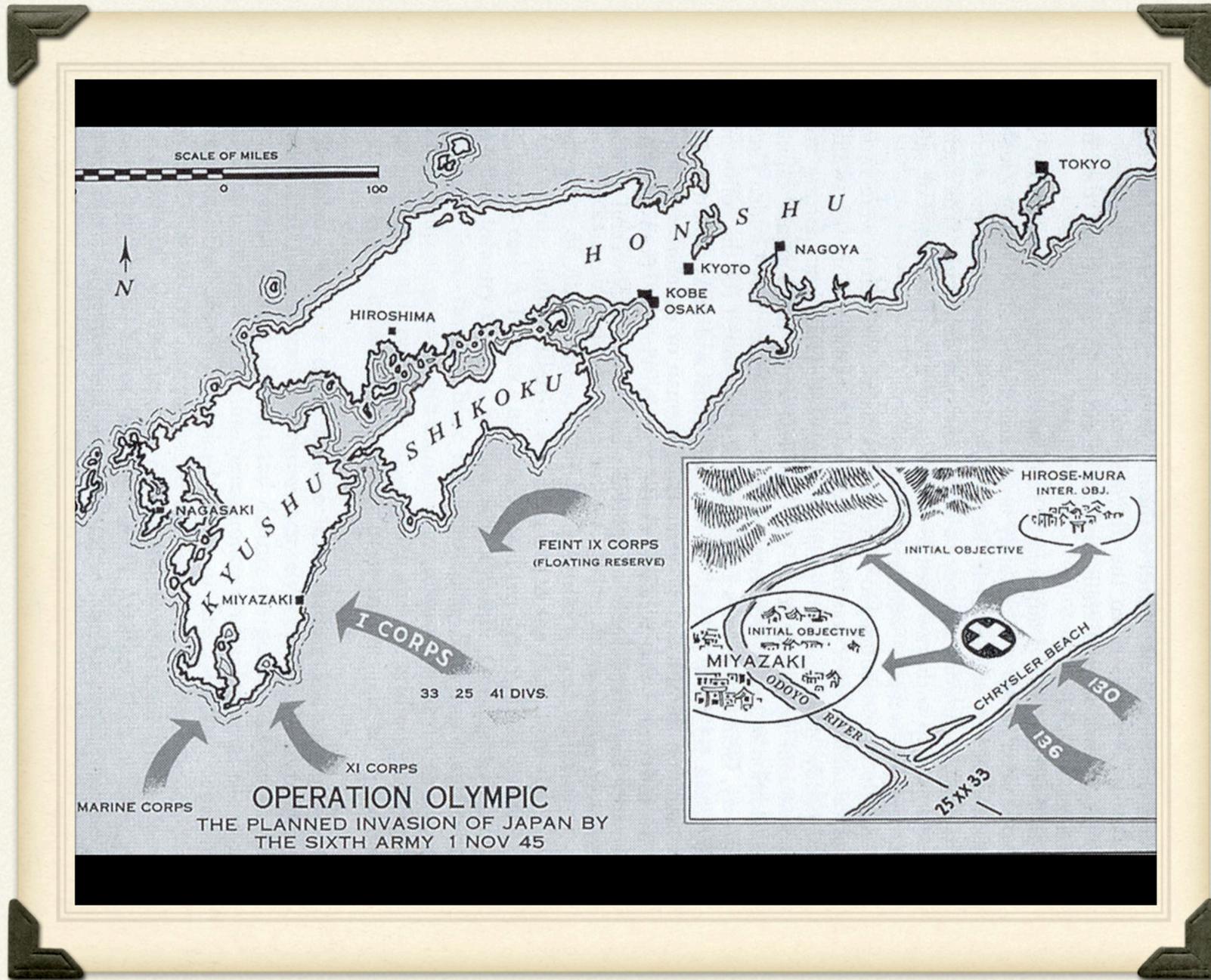
Invasion of Japan  
1 November 1945

Operation Olympic was the planned invasion of Kyushu, Japan's southernmost island. I Corps, which included the 33rd Division, was to lead the initial assault.

The 130th and 136th Infantry were to be the first on the beach at Miyazaki.

Miyazaki was defended by four enemy divisions and surrounded by hills. The Japanese were in a position to resist the amphibious assault. Operation Olympic would have proven a bloody undertaking for the 33rd Division.

An atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima on 6 August and on Nagasaki on 8 August. The Japanese surrendered on 14 August. The war was over. Victory in Japan became official on 2 September when Japan signed the instrument of surrender aboard the battleship Missouri in Tokyo Bay. Operation Olympic was suspended pending firm establishment of American Forces in Japan.



Invasion plan for Operation Olympic



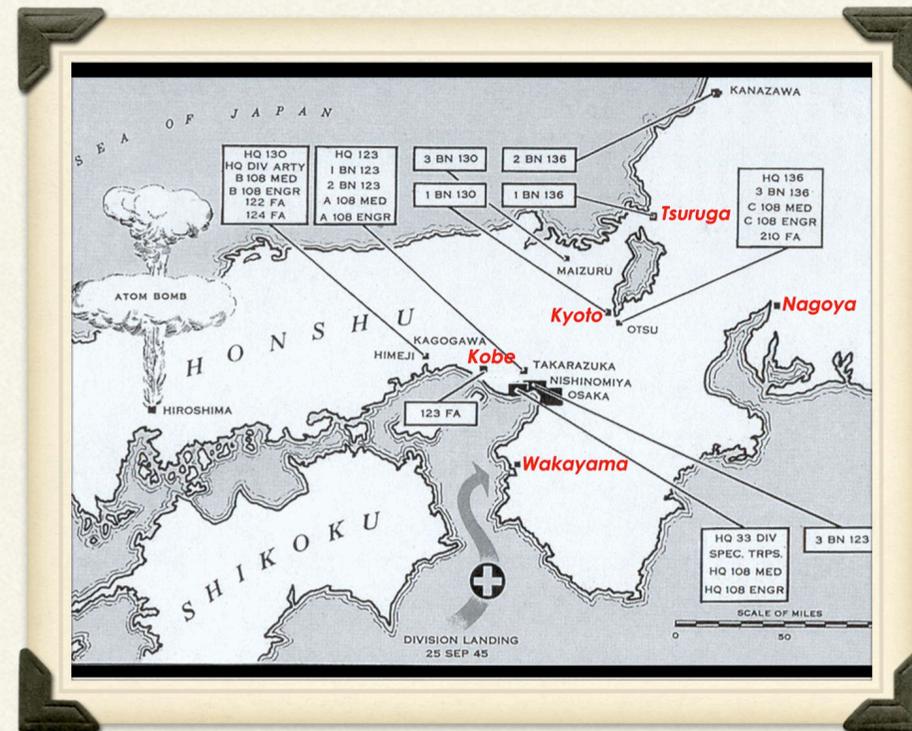
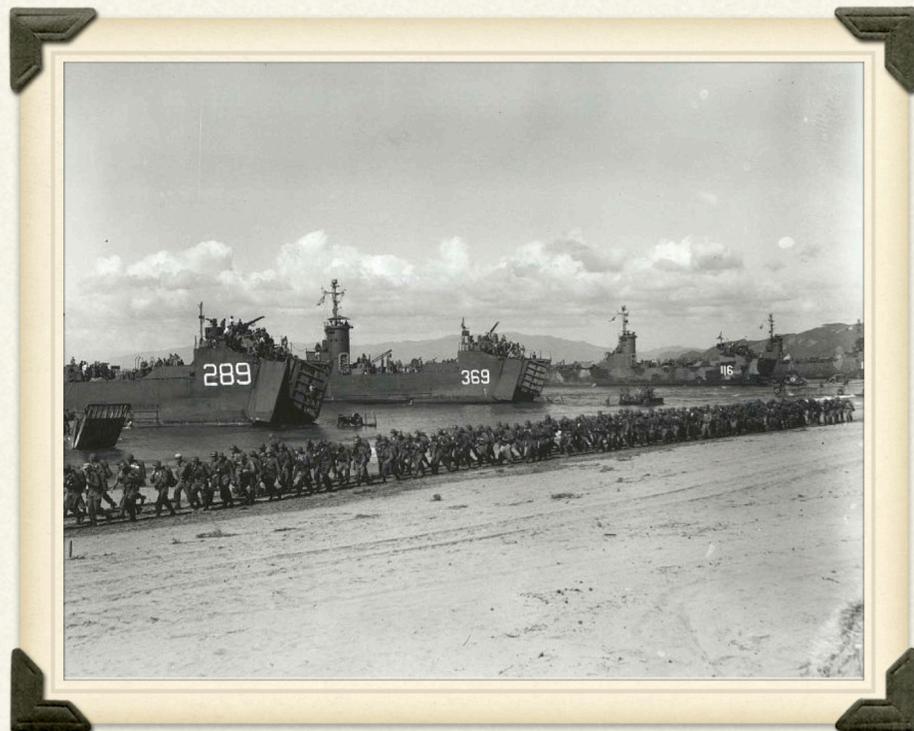
## Japan

Honshu Island

25 September 1945 - 17 December 1945

SS Lurline set sail for Seattle on 17 December 1945

The 33rd Division landed at Wakayama, Honshu, Japan on 25 September. They then moved to the Kyoto-Kobe-Himeji sector that was assigned to the Division. The 136th Infantry was stationed in Kyoto. On 26 October the 136th First Battalion was moved to Tsuraga. The occupational duty of the 33rd was the de-militarization of Japan and the destruction of all ammunition and weapons of war. Troops returning home were sent to Kobe and boarded trains for Nagoya. Ships left Nagoya for the US twice a month.



Left: 33rd Division landing at Wakayama  
Right: 33rd Division occupation map



## **Fort Lewis**

Tacoma, Washington

## **Fort Sheridan**

Fort Sheridan, Illinois  
Army Separation Center

Frank Hartwell Hertz arrived in Seattle on 24 December 1945 and was processed through Fort Lewis. He returned to Fort Sheridan and was discharged from the Army on 29 January 1946.

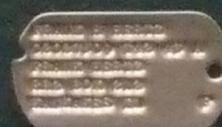




## **Medals**



U.S.



2ND LT. FRANK HARTWELL HERTZ  
CO B/G 136TH INFANTRY REGIMENT  
33RD INFANTRY DIVISION  
UNITED STATES ARMY  
21 APR 1942 - 29 JAN 1946



*Bronze Star*



*American Campaign*



*33rd Division*



*136th Infantry*



*Overseas Service Bars*



*Asiatic Pacific Campaign*



*WWII Victory*



*Expert Infantryman Badge*



*Combat Infantryman Badge*



*Army of Occupation*



*Philippine Liberation*



*Philippine Presidential Unit Citation*



*2nd Lieutenant Rank*



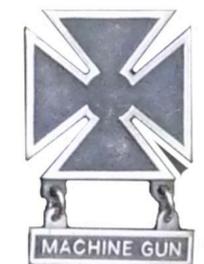
*U.S. U.S. Officers Insignia*



*Army Infantry Officer*



*Sharpshooter*



*Marksman*

### **Bronze Star Medal**

Awarded to individuals who, while serving in a combat theater, distinguish themselves by heroism or outstanding achievement.

- Awarded in 1947 to all personnel who had received the Combat Infantryman's Badge.

### **American Campaign Medal**

Awarded to individuals who served in the American Theater of Operations from 7 December 1941 to 2 March 1946.

- Awarded for thirty consecutive days outside the continental United States (Hawaii - 10 July 1942 - 30 April 1944).

### **Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal**

Awarded to individuals who served thirty consecutive days within the Asiatic-Pacific Theater from 7 December 1941 to 2 March 1946.

- Bronze star for New Guinea Campaign (15 May 1944 - 9 December 1944).
- Bronze star for Luzon Campaign (10 February 1945 - 19 September 1945).

**WWII Victory Medal** - Awarded to all members of the Armed Forces who served at least one day of service from 7 December 1941 to 31 December 1946.

### **Army of Occupation Medal**

Awarded to individuals who served thirty consecutive days of service in formerly held enemy territories.

- Awarded for thirty consecutive days in Japan (25 September 1945 - 17 December 1945).

### **Philippine Liberation Medal**

Awarded to individuals for service in the liberation of the Philippine Islands from 17 October 1944 to 3 September 1945.

- Awarded for engagement against the enemy on Luzon (10 February 1945 - 19 September 1945).
- Bronze star for thirty consecutive days in the Philippines and engagement against the enemy.

**33 Division Patch** - "The Golden Cross"

**136<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment Unit Crest** - Motto: *REX MONTIS* (King of the Hill)

**Overseas Service Bars** - each bar represents six months overseas in a combat zone

### **Expert Infantryman Badge**

Awarded after a soldier passed a battery of tests that covered a wide range of infantry skills. Considered to be one of the toughest physical and most demanding mental challenges for an infantryman.

- Awarded on 12 November 1944.

### **Combat Infantryman Badge**

Awarded to individuals who were personally present and under hostile fire while in a unit actively engaged in ground combat with the enemy.

- Awarded for ground combat on Morotai 3 January 1945.

### **Philippine Presidential Unit Citation**

Awarded to individuals for services resulting in the liberation of the Philippines.

**2nd Lieutenant Rank/US Letters Officers insignia/Army Infantry Officer insignia** - Combat Promotion to 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant 13 June 1945.

### **Marksmanship Badge**

Awarded to individuals upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course, issued in three grades: Expert, Sharpshooter, Marksman

- Awarded Sharpshooter with Rifle (M1 Garand) and Auto Rifle (Browning Automatic Rifle, M1918).
- Awarded Marksman with Machine Gun (Browning M2 or Browning M1919).



## **Army Documents**

General Orders  
Combat Promotion to 2nd Lieutenant  
Commendation  
Separation Record  
Letter of Appreciation from President Harry S. Truman

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HEADQUARTERS  
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES IN THE FAR EAST

GENERAL ORDERS )  
: A.P.O. 501  
NO.....26 ) 11 February 1945

BATTLE PARTICIPATION CREDIT - NEW GUINEA CAMPAIGN

Pursuant to paragraph 21b (2), Army Regulations 260-10, 25 October 1944, the following Ground Force units are entitled to battle honors for participation in the New Guinea Campaign during the period 24 January 1943 to present date:

- General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area
- Headquarters, United States Army Forces in the Far East
- Headquarters, Sixth Army
- Headquarters, Eighth Army
- Headquarters, I Corps
- Headquarters, X Corps
- Headquarters, XI Corps
- Headquarters, Replacement Command, USAFFE
- Headquarters, Western Visayan Task Force (Prov)
- 1st Cavalry Division Special
- 6th Infantry Division
- 11th Airborne Division
- 24th Infantry Division
- 31st Infantry Division
- 32d Infantry Division
- 33d Infantry Division
- 38th Infantry Division
- 41st Infantry Division
- 43d Infantry Division
- 93d Infantry Division
- 2d Engineer Special Brigade
- 3d Engineer Special Brigade
- 4th Engineer Special Brigade
- Headquarters & Headquarters Battery, 32d AAA Brigade
- Headquarters & Headquarters Battery, 40th AAA Brigade
- 5202d Engineer Construction Brigade
- 1st Filipino Infantry Regiment
- 112th Cavalry Regiment (Special)
- 154th Infantry Regiment
- 158th Infantry Regiment
- 135th Medical Regiment
- 503d Parachute Infantry Regiment
- Headquarters & Headquarters Battery, 6th Antiaircraft Artillery Group
- Headquarters & Headquarters Battery, 10th Antiaircraft Artillery Group
- Headquarters & Headquarters Battery, 15th Antiaircraft Artillery Group

*General Order 26 - Battle Honors for Participation in the New Guinea Campaign  
Authorized Bronze Star on Asiatic Pacific Theater Ribbon*

1421 Signal Lt Major  
7050  
GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC

GENERAL ORDERS )  
:  
NO.....128 )

APO 500  
22 August 1945

BATTLE PARTICIPATION CREDIT  
LUZON CAMPAIGN

1. Pursuant to AR 260-10, 25 October 1944, and General Orders 33, War Department, 1945, the following Ground Force units are entitled to battle honors for participation in the Luzon Campaign:

General Headquarters, United States Army Forces, Pacific  
General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area  
Headquarters, United States Army Forces in the Far East  
Headquarters and Service Group, General Headquarters, United States Army Forces, Pacific  
Headquarters, Special Troops, General Headquarters, United States Army Forces, Pacific  
Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Sixth Army  
Headquarters, Special Troops, Sixth Army  
Headquarters and Headquarters Company, I Corps  
Headquarters and Headquarters Company, XI Corps  
Headquarters and Headquarters Company, XIV Corps  
11th Airborne Division  
1st Cavalry Division  
6th Infantry Division  
24th Infantry Division  
25th Infantry Division  
32d Infantry Division  
33d Infantry Division  
37th Infantry Division  
38th Infantry Division  
40th Infantry Division  
43d Infantry Division  
Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, I Corps Artillery  
Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, XI Corps Artillery  
Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, XIV Corps Artillery  
11th Airborne Division Artillery  
1st Cavalry Division Artillery  
6th Infantry Division Artillery  
24th Infantry Division Artillery  
25th Infantry Division Artillery  
32d Infantry Division Artillery  
33d Infantry Division Artillery  
37th Infantry Division Artillery  
38th Infantry Division Artillery  
40th Infantry Division Artillery  
43d Infantry Division Artillery  
4th Engineer Special Brigade  
533d Engineer Boat and Shore Regiment

*General Order 128 - Battle Honors for Participation in the Luzon Campaign  
Authorized Bronze Star on Asiatic Pacific Theater Ribbon*

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HEADQUARTERS  
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES IN THE FAR EAST

GENERAL ORDERS )  
:  
NO.....23 )

AGO 501  
5 February 1945

PHILIPPINE SERVICE RIBBONS

1. The Commonwealth of the Philippines, in Army Headquarters General Orders 6, 1944, has announced the following service ribbons:

a. Philippine Defense Ribbon. For service in defense of the Philippines from 8 December 1941 to 15 June 1942.

b. Philippine Liberation Ribbon. For service in the liberation of the Philippines from 17 October 1944, to a date to be announced hereafter.

2. The following conditions governing eligibility for the award of these service ribbons are announced:

a. Philippine Defense Ribbon.

(1) All members of the Philippine Army, including Philippine Constabulary, on active duty and all members of the armed forces of the United States and of nations allied or associated with the United States in the war against the Japanese Empire, are eligible if:

(a) They participated in any engagement against the enemy on Philippine Territory, in Philippine waters or in the air over the Philippines or over Philippine waters, during the period from 8 December 1941 to 15 June 1942.

(b) They were assigned or stationed in Philippine territory or in Philippine waters for not less than 30 days during the period from 8 December 1941 to 15 June 1942.

(2) Individuals eligible under both (a) and (b) of the preceding sub-paragraph are authorized to wear a bronze star on the ribbon.

(3) An individual will be considered as having participated in combat if:

(a) He was a member of the defense garrison of the Bataan peninsula or of the fortified islands at the entrance to Manila Bay.

- 1 -

~~RESTRICTED~~

Restricted Classification  
Removed Per  
Executive Order 10501

Incl #1

(G.O. 23)

~~RESTRICTED~~

- (b) He was a member of and present with a unit actually under enemy fire or air attack.
- (c) He served on a ship which was under enemy fire or air attack.
- (d) He was a crew member or passenger in an airplane which was under enemy aerial or ground fire.

b. Philippine Liberation Ribbon.

(1) All members of the Philippine Army, including the Philippine Constabulary, on active duty and all members of the armed forces of the United States and of nations allied or associated with the United States in the war against the Japanese Empire, are eligible if:

(a) They participated in the initial landing operations on Leyte and adjoining islands from 17 October to 20 October 1944. An individual will be considered as having participated in such operations if he landed on Leyte or adjoining islands, was on a ship in Philippine waters, or was a crew member of an airplane which flew over Philippine territory during such period.

(b) They participated in any engagement against the enemy during the campaign. An individual will be considered as having participated in combat under the conditions set forth in paragraph 2a (3), (b), (c) or (d).

(c) They served in the Philippine Islands or on ships in Philippine waters for not less than 30 days during the period from 17 October 1944 to a terminal date to be announced.

(2) (a) Individuals eligible under any two of the provisions stated in the foregoing paragraphs are authorized to wear a bronze star on the ribbon.

(b) Individuals eligible under all three of the provisions are authorized to wear two bronze stars on the ribbon.

3. The bronze star authorized for wear on the ribbons shall be a five-pointed star 4.75 millimeters (3/16 inch) in diameter.

4. Philippine waters are defined, in so far as these awards are concerned, as those waters within fifty (50) miles of any of the islands constituting the Commonwealth of the Philippines.

5. With the approval of the War Department, acceptance of the aforementioned ribbons and the wearing of them by all eligible military personnel of the Army of the United States is authorized.

- 2 -

~~RESTRICTED~~

R-E-S-T-R-I-C-T-E-D

HEADQUARTERS 136th INFANTRY  
APO 33 c/o Postmaster  
San Francisco California

1 December 1944

GENERAL ORDER )  
NUMBER.....16 )

1. Under the provisions of WD Cir 186, dated 11 May 1944, the following named Officers and Enlisted Men, upon recommendation of the Company Commanders and having completed the prescribed Expert Infantryman's Tests on the date indicated opposite their name, are hereby awarded the EXPERT INFANTRY BADGE:

Hq Company 1st Bn.

Adkins, Elton L.	35 651 418	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Bach, Emanuel F.	36 332 849	Tec 4	12 Nov 44
Barker, Earl D.	36 289 720	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Burleson, William P.	15 116 713	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Canter, Cecil C.	38 138 099	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Cluts, Ralph A.	36 330 855	Sgt	12 Nov 44
Collins, James D.	36 417 506	Tec 5	12 Nov 44
Crabtree, Eldon O.	36 331 467	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Cummins, Joseph H.	36 222 497	Tec 5	12 Nov 44
De Cicco, Louis E.	36 332 920	Pvt	12 Nov 44
Golden, Harry A.	32 251 049	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Gower, Haywood B.	34 311 862	Sgt	12 Nov 44
Grosswall, Osborne A.	36 331 520	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Grocsek, Joseph B.	36 179 776	Tec 5	12 Nov 44
Hack, William A.	20 606 181	S Sgt	12 Nov 44
Hagen, Robert O.	36 438 148	Tec 5	12 Nov 44
Hoppe, Elmer J.	36 332 711	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Hudson, George I.	12 130 521	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Hultgren, Herbert J.	36 196 994	Sgt	12 Nov 44
Ilges, Bernard W.	37 629 458	Pvt	12 Nov 44
Jackson, Robert C.	36 311 639	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Johnson, Raymond M.	36 147 572	Sgt	12 Nov 44
Kaufmann, Leonard W.	36 147 744	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Kelly, Jerome M.	36 275 044	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Ledbetter, William H.	38 047 974	Tec 4	12 Nov 44
Lee, James P.	34 311 876	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Lemberger, Francis E.	36 269 329	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Hack, Joseph R.	36 332 587	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Masica, Chester J.	36 180 389	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Matulewicz, Chester A.	36 331 541	S Sgt	12 Nov 44
McDonald, Samuel W.	36 179 616	Pfc	12 Nov 44
McKibben, Denver L.	20 602 032	T Sgt	12 Nov 44
McNellis, Don W.	36 332 852	S Sgt	12 Nov 44
Melton, Martin V.	67 619 38	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Milkovich, John	15 116 730	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Mills, Donald G.	37 672 434	Pfc	12 Nov 44

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R-E-S-T-R-I-C-T-E-D

R-E-S-T-R-I-C-T-E-D

(GO #16 1 Dec 44 Cont'd)

Covey, Daniel P.	36 577 929	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Shannon, John J.	36 575 808	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Cherwinski, Louis	36 551 298	Pvt	12 Nov 44
Chinski, Edward F.	36 332 297	Sgt	12 Nov 44
Cincinelli, Oro V.	36 332 692	S Sgt	12 Nov 44
Clodi, Voyal V.	36 332 244	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Cosczar, James	35 513 839	Pvt	12 Nov 44
Crochi, Kenneth L.	36 552 580	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Curran, Joseph	39 107 302	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Davis, Weldon L.	36 378 082	Pfc	12 Nov 44
De Young, Harvey R.	36 068 496	Pvt	12 Nov 44
Dove, Edwin R.	36 332 638	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Drelicharz, Bruno	36 019 258	Tec 5	12 Nov 44
Dyar, Forrest	36 444 815	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Eisinger, Edwin	36 531 044	Pvt	12 Nov 44
Franks, Lawrence T.	35 873 009	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Frisch, Leo	39 398 494	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Glass, Stanley F.	36 270 545	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Good, Howard E.	39 061 476	Pvt	12 Nov 44
Grandiel, Edward J.	36 332 566	S Sgt	12 Nov 44
Gustafson, Fridolf A.	36 329 200	S Sgt	12 Nov 44
Harpster, Howard H.	39 362 403	Sgt	12 Nov 44
Haupt, Kenneth H.	36 269 572	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Hertz, Frank H.	36 311 793	S Sgt	12 Nov 44
Hiebor, Charles E.	36 632 689	Cpl	12 Nov 44
Higgins, Audrey E.	36 227 687	Pvt	12 Nov 44
Higgins Jr., James	36 552 683	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Howard, James T.	36 350 707	Pfc	9 Nov 44
Hughes Jr., Claude	39 398 128	Pvt	12 Nov 44
Jeffries, Eddie	39 713 761	Pvt	12 Nov 44
Kerrick, Michael	33 017 008	Pfc	12 Nov 44
King, Cecil	39 351 066	Pvt	12 Nov 44
Koepke, Warren J.	36 380 276	Sgt	12 Nov 44
Lagerstrom, Howard D.	36 330 822	Sgt	12 Nov 44
Larsen, Leo A.	39 834 618	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Lumpke, Leonard N.	36 552 022	Pfc	9 Nov 44
Livengood, Roy	20 605 241	T Sgt	12 Nov 44
Lovell, James S.	33 535 630	Pvt	9 Nov 44
Luffman, Luther E.	34 796 031	Pvt	12 Nov 44
Mac Jones, Jack W.	36 552 738	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Macon, Quantrol G.	38 290 997	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Martinez, Brigido G.	38 292 337	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Marullo, Harry B.	36 332 625	Pfc	12 Nov 44
Massiote, Victor G.	38 254 741	Pvt	12 Nov 44
Matorano, Charles A.	42 011 241	Pvt	12 Nov 44
Matt, Walter R.	36 639 330	Pfc	12 Nov 44
McInerney, James P.	36 552 327	Pvt	9 Nov 44
McInelly, Cron	39 218 005	Pvt	12 Nov 44
McMatters, Richard J.	36 532 351	Pvt	12 Nov 44

R-E-S-T-R-I-C-T-E-D

TAG

R-E-S-T-R-I-C-T-E-D  
HEADQUARTERS 136TH INFANTRY  
APO 33 C/O POSTMASTER  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

21 January 1945

GENERAL ORDERS )  
NUMBER (13)

1. Under the provision of WD Cir #408, dated 17 Oct 44, the following named Officers and Enlisted Men, upon recommendation of the Company Commander, and having performed satisfactorily in ground combat against the enemy on 3 January 1945 are hereby awarded the COMBAT INFANTRYMAN'S BADGE:

NAME	RANK	ASN
✓ Harris, William S.	1st Lt	0-430484
✓ Hubbert, William B., Jr.	1st Lt	0-443749
✓ Lee, Kermit A.	1st Lt	0-1203115
✓ Sullivan, Michael E.	1st Lt	0-1294577
✓ Hall, Wilbur A.	2d Lt	0-1307966
✓ Ingram, Claude O.	2d Lt	0-495607
✓ Kamark, Chester L.	1st Sgt	20610298
✓ Bechtel, Charles R.	T Sgt	26025946
✓ Livengood, Ray	T Sgt	20605241
✓ Schonert, Irvin E.	T Sgt	20604702
✓ Anderson, Emory M.	S Sgt	36330200
✓ Moran, Ernest F.	S Sgt	36330899
✓ Cincinelli, Oro V.	S Sgt	36332692
✓ Gibbs, James T.	S Sgt	36332641
✓ Grandiel, Edward J.	S Sgt	36332566
✓ Gustafson, Fridolf A.	S Sgt	36329300
✓ Hertz, Frank H.	S Sgt	36332393
✓ Kopcaowski, Harry H.	S Sgt	36331445
✓ Michiporenko, George N.	S Sgt	36332253
✓ Padet, Leo M.	S Sgt	36554104
✓ Farisi, John H.	S Sgt	36332680
✓ Pflug, LaRoy W.	S Sgt	36330875
✓ Zolli, Joseph E.	S Sgt	36332298
✓ Carlin, Donald T.	Sgt	36332225
✓ Chinski, Edward E.	Sgt	36332297
✓ Chorich, Louis J.	Sgt	35513914
✓ Harpster, Howard H.	Sgt	35342403
✓ Lagerstrom, Howard D.	Sgt	36330872
✓ Nichols, Arnold S.	Sgt	36330891
✓ Nichols, Claude H.	Sgt	36330906
✓ Olson, Norbert F.	Sgt	36379451
✓ O'Neill, Leo E.	Sgt	36332252
✓ Swanson, Harold R.	Sgt	36332615
✓ Williams, Dewey, E.	Sgt	36411796
✓ Hieber, Charles E.	C-1	36532667
✓ Alusa, Edward J.	Tec 5	36330912
✓ Matheson, Alexander	Tec 5	37087291

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R-E-S-T-R-I-C-T-E-D

General Order 13 - Frank Hertz awarded the Combat Infantryman's Badge 21 January 1945

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY  
APO 442

13 June 1945

SPECIAL ORDERS )

NUMBER 156 )

E-X-T-R-A-C-T

1. Pursuant to authority contained in letter, Headquarters USAFFE, FEKAP 210.2, Subject: "Authority to make Combat Promotions," dated 9 May 1945, announcement is made of the temp promotion of the following-named off to the gr indicated in the AUS with rank from date of this order.

CAPT TO MAJ

CHARLIE H COOK 0327054 Inf  
JAMES J CURRAN 0409110 Inf

SAMUEL T LAWTON JR 0404298 FA  
ELROY F ZEHNER 0419749 FA

1ST TO CAPT

BENJAMIN C BELL 01824565 CWS  
EDWARD J DRICHTA 01180435 FA

ALBERT W SCHALL 01302668 Inf

2D LT TO 1ST LT

STEVEN J BIANCHI 01327802 Inf  
JOSEPH A BUCKMAN 01331371 Inf  
RALPH A CALL JR 0554430 FA  
EVERETT J CAMPBELL 02007274 FA  
HERBERT R CARNEY 0927942 Inf

VALERE H DEWEY 02007487 FA  
BOLESLAUS T LUGOWE 01331528 Inf  
WILLIS D RICHARDSON 0547488 FA  
SIGFRED A RONN 02007279 FA

2. DP and pursuant to authority contained in letter, Hq. USAFFE, FEKAP 210.1, Subject: "Authority to make Combat Appointments," dated 20 April 1945, the following EM are aptd temp 2d Lieutenants, AUS. EM will be discharged eff 12 June 45, ordered to AD eff 13 June 45 with rank from same date, and asgd br and orgns indicated.

RANK	NAME	ASN	BR	ASGMT	OFFICER SERIAL NO.
M Sgt	MURRAY E WALLER	36332828	Inf	33d Inf Div	02027503
T Sgt	ROBERT M MORNINGSTAR	20532697	Inf	38th Inf Div	02027504
T Sgt	WILLIAM B MURPHEY	36179686	Inf	33d Inf Div	02027505
T Sgt	DALLAS R ROBERTS	37529258	Inf	25th Inf Div	02027506
S Sgt	NEAL A COWIN	16168825	Inf	33d Inf Div	02027507
S Sgt	JOHN A EVANS	32213440	Inf	38th Inf Div	02027508
S Sgt	FRANK H HERTZ	36332393	Inf	33d Inf Div	02027509
S Sgt	WILLIAM J NEILSON	16064235	Inf	33d Inf Div	02027510
S Sgt	DONALD W OGLESEBY	36330952	Inf	33d Inf Div	02027511
Sgt	LLOYD E REDENBO	37618608	Inf	25th Inf Div	02027512

3. So much of par 1 SO 80 this Hq 9 Mar 45 as pertains to T Sgt Dale L Board 20906689 40th Inf Div is revoked.

- 1 -  
RESTRICTED

R-E-S-T-R-I-C-T-E-D

HEADQUARTERS 136TH INFANTRY  
APO 33, c/o Postmaster  
San Francisco, California

17 June 1945

MEMORANDUM  
NUMBER 31

Section I

ASSIGNMENT OF OFFICERS

1. Asgd to this comd per par 1, SO 127, Hq 33d Inf Div, 17 June 45, 2I LT MURRAY E WALLER, 02027503, Inf, ASR 70, is asgd to Hq 3d Bn.
2. Asgd to this comd per par 1, SO 127, Hq 33d Inf Div, 17 June 45, 2D LT WILLIAM B MURPHEY, 02027505, Inf, ASR 93, is asgd to Hq 1st Bn.
3. Asgd to this comd per par 1, SO 127, Hq 33d Inf Div, 17 June 45, 2D LT WILLIAM J NEILSON, 02027510, Inf, ASR 81, is asgd to "E" Co.
4. Asgd to this comd per par 1, SO 127, Hq 33d Inf Div, 17 June 45, 2D LT DONALD W OGLESEBY, 02027511, Inf, ASR 69, is asgd to "E" Co.
5. Asgd to this comd per par 1, SO 127, Hq 33d Inf Div, 17 June 45, 2D LT FRANK H HERTZ, 02027509, Inf, ASR 69, is asgd to "G" Co.

Section II

TRANSFER OF ENLISTED MAN

I. Pfc Cecil C Cantor, 38138099, MOS 542 MCO 590, is trfd in gr fr Hq Co, 1st Bn to "B" Co.

BY ORDER OF COLONEL C. VENEZ:

OFFICIAL:

L. H. ADAMS, JR  
Major, Infantry  
Adjutant.

L. H. ADAMS, JR  
Major, Infantry  
Adjutant.

DISTRIBUTION:  
"C"

R-E-S-T-R-I-C-T-E-D

Special Order 156 - Combat Promotion of Frank Hertz to 2nd Lieutenant 13 June 1945  
Memorandum 31 - 2nd Lt. Frank Hertz Assigned to company "G" 17 June 1945

HEADQUARTERS 136TH INFANTRY  
A.P.O. #33, c/o postmaster  
San Francisco, California

30 May 1944

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : Staff Sergeant Frank H. Hertz, Company B, 136th Infantry,  
(Thru: Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 136th Infantry).

1. Staff Sergeant Frank H. Hertz of your command was detailed as an assistant instructor for the Unit Jungle Training Center from 21 March 1944 to 16 April 1944. During this period three Battalion Landing Teams and a detachment of Marines were trained at this center, and the success of the training was due to the conscientious effort of all the personnel involved. I desire to commend Sergeant Hertz for the splendid work which he put forth while assigned to this training center.

RAY E. CAVENKE,  
Colonel, Infantry,  
Commanding.

*Commendation from Colonel Cavenke for Duties Performed at the Jungle Training Center in Maui*



## SEPARATION QUALIFICATION RECORD

SAVE THIS FORM. IT WILL NOT BE REPLACED IF LOST

This record of job assignments and special training received in the Army is furnished to the soldier when he leaves the service. In its preparation, information is taken from available Army records and supplemented by personal interview. The information about civilian education and work experience is based on the individual's own statements. The veteran may present this document to former employers, prospective employers, representatives of schools or colleges, or use it in any other way that may prove beneficial to him.

1. LAST NAME—FIRST NAME—MIDDLE INITIAL			MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL ASSIGNMENTS		
HERTZ FRANK H			10. MONTHS	11. GRADE	12. MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALTY
2. ARMY SERIAL No.	3. GRADE	4. SOCIAL SECURITY No.	7	2d Lt	Infantry Unit Commander (1542)
02 027 509	2d Lt	Unknown			
5. PERMANENT MAILING ADDRESS (Street, City, County, State)					
R #2 Box 272 Kankakee, Ill					
6. DATE OF ENTRY INTO ACTIVE SERVICE	7. DATE OF SEPARATION	8. DATE OF BIRTH			
13 Jun 45	29 Jan 46	20 Sep 19			
9. PLACE OF SEPARATION					
Separation Center Ft Sheridan Ill					

### SUMMARY OF MILITARY OCCUPATIONS

13. TITLE—DESCRIPTION—RELATED CIVILIAN OCCUPATION

**INFANTRY UNIT COMMANDER:** Commanded a normal infantry platoon and was responsible for its administration, training, and tactical employment in combat. Directed supply, equipment, transportation, and security activities of the platoon.



FRANK H. HERTZ

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*To you who answered the call of your country and served in its Armed Forces to bring about the total defeat of the enemy, I extend the heartfelt thanks of a grateful Nation. As one of the Nation's finest, you undertook the most severe task one can be called upon to perform. Because you demonstrated the fortitude, resourcefulness and calm judgment necessary to carry out that task, we now look to you for leadership and example in further exalting our country in peace.*

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Harry S. Truman".

THE WHITE HOUSE

*Letter of Appreciation from President Harry S. Truman*

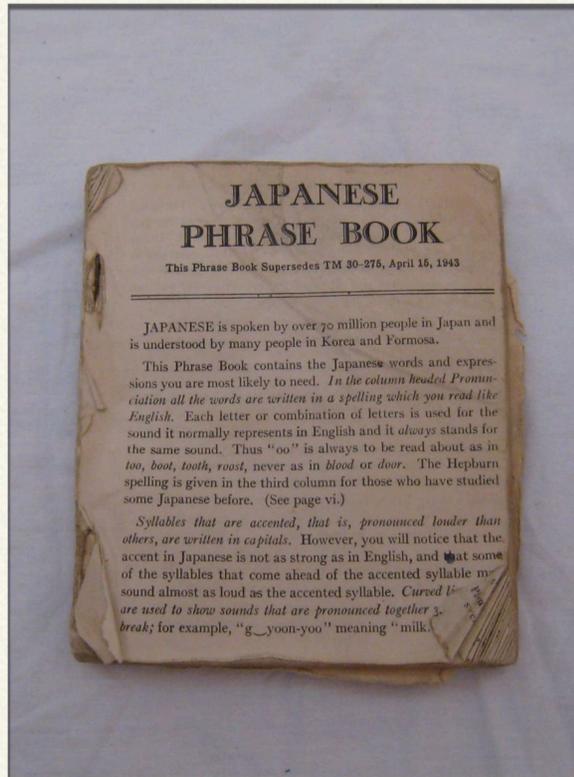


## **Footlocker**

Uniforms  
Items from Japan  
Flags  
Fans









## Japanese Hinomaru Flags

Hinomaru literally means “circular sun”; this design was often called a “meatball” flag by American soldiers. There were also autographed flags called hinomaru yosegaki, or “rising sun autographs” in Japanese.

When new recruits or reservists were called to active duty, their family members or company purchased a Japanese flag. Relatives, friends and co-workers would sign their names and add a good luck or patriotic message to the flag. Throughout the war the soldier carried these flags, close to the body. The flag would be carried in the soldier’s pocket for luck. The material is either silk or a similar synthetic and has reinforcements of a stiffer, brown material on the right corners with woven ties. These flags usually had a patriotic slogan of some kind written across the top and the soldier’s name written vertically along the right side.



*Far right: Kanada (name of soldier)*

*The other writing is patriotic slogans which include:*

*Military service forever, Certain victory, Patriotic service through complete loyalty, Exterminate ugly captives, 100 lives 100 battles, 1 person kills 10, Exterminate US and Britain, Valor, Praying for military success, Pray for a brave fight, Attack to extermination and defeat enemy, Each strike of the sword definitely kills, Even if I die I come back 7 times to serve the country*



Far right: Wishes/Blessings to the 8th garrison  
Writing on right full length of the flag: Kotaro Wakatani (name of soldier)  
Writing across the top: Praying for eternal military success  
The rest of the writing is all names of the soldiers unit and relatives

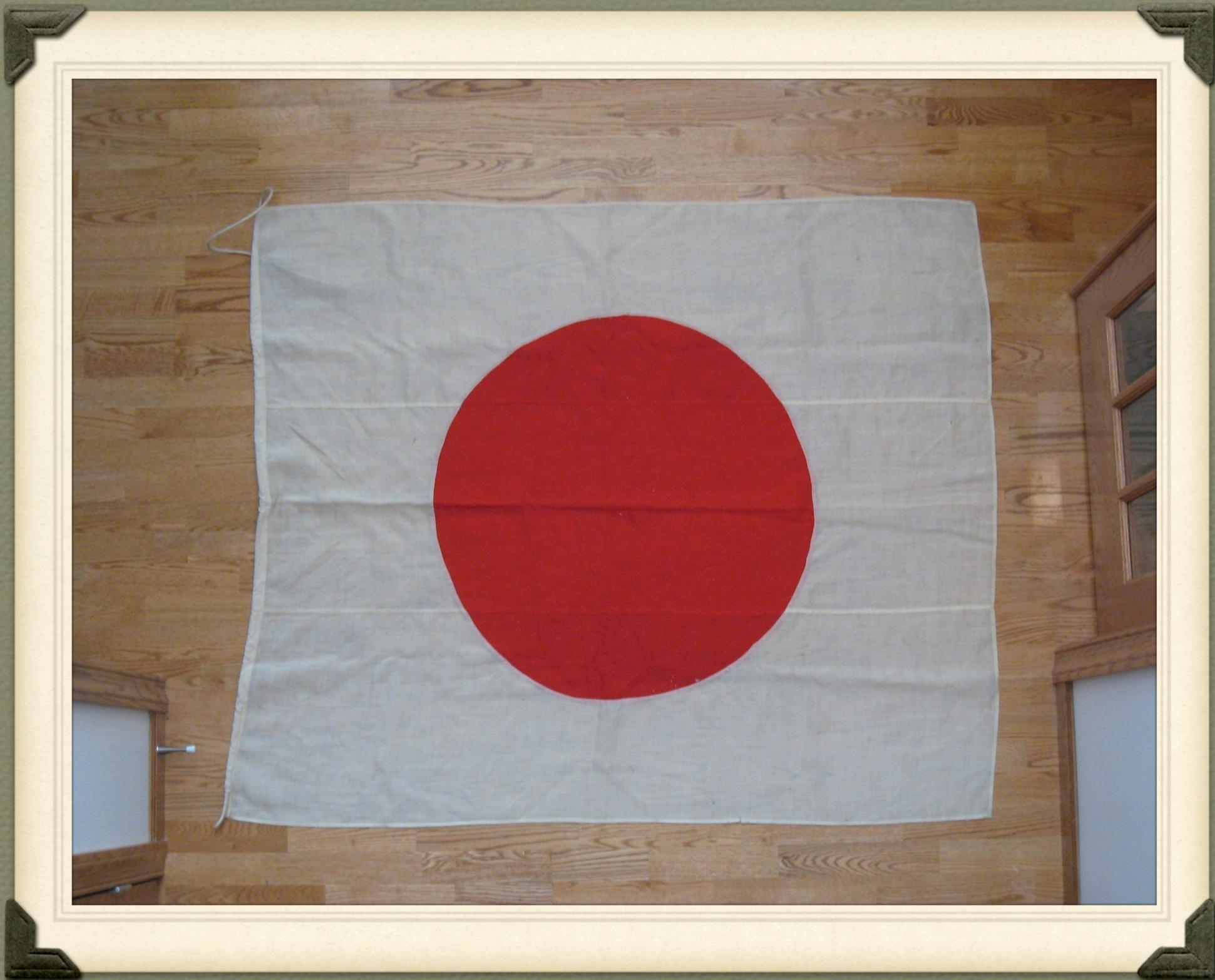


*Far right: For Lieutenant Hertz*

*Writing on right full length of the flag: Governor of Toyama Prefecture Okamoto Shigeru*

*Writing across the top: Peace Japan*

*The rest of the writing is all names*





Left: Small flag signed by other soldiers  
Right: Small flag signed by the Mayor of Takaoka, Kizu Tarohei



**Fans**



*Small Japanese across top: New Japan  
Large Japanese across top: Victory Certain  
Japanese down left side: Given to Lieutenant Hertz from Kayo Kaneda*







## **Guns and Sword**



Left: Japanese matchlock rifle  
Right: Fabrique National .32 caliber pistol manufactured in August 1931



尾Bi  
州shu  
明Ake  
地chi  
住ju  
松matsu  
平daira  
祐suke  
久hisa  
作saku

### **Bishu Akechi ju Matsudaira Sukehisa saku**

**Bishu** is Owari province

**Akechi** a town in Owari

**ju** lived at

**Matsudaira** (family name) Patronymic name of a certain number of families, related to the Tokugawa, most of them descending from Yauchika, son of Chikauji (+1407).

**Sukehisa** (*smith's name*)

**saku** (made)

Japanese Officers sword mounted in Shingunto (army) mounts from the WWII period.

The style of signature and color of the tang shows that this is a showa period sword (1925 through WWII). The signature is for a koto (pre 1600) smith. Often during WWII smiths would take the name of a very old smith and use that name on his modern swords.



## **WWII Interview**

Interview by Todd Hertz on 13 September 1996

**- How old were you when you were drafted?**

**Hartwell:** 22

**- What year was that?**

**Hartwell:** 1942. I was working in Kansas City for North American building B-25 bombers.

**- Where did you go after you were drafted?**

**Hartwell:** I went to Camp Forrest in Tennessee. At Chattanooga.

**- When you were drafted, what was your overall feeling? Patriotism? Regret?**

**Hartwell:** I wanted to help the country. Keep the Japs from taking everything. They had the Hawaiian Islands pretty well under at that time.

**- With Vietnam and other wars, Americans have a lot of conflicting attitudes. But you felt this was your duty and you were happy to do it?**

**Hartwell:** Yup.

**- So you're down at Chattanooga. What happened from there?**

**Hartwell:** We had all of our training down there. My two brothers Elwin and Floyd were down there when I first got there. They were in the National Guard. We had our basic training and then we went to Fort Lewis in Washington for awhile. And then, they found out we were going overseas where it was hot so they took us out to the Mohave desert for more training. It was only 140 out there in the daytime in the tents. We couldn't stand it. We had to dig a hole and lay in the hole to keep cool. And then we'd walk at night. You'd take a blanket with you at night, you had to have a wool blanket on you. We used to burn these big cactuses for heat. We'd sit around that and talk at night.

**- You told me once that there was something in one of those cactuses.**

**Hartwell:** Yeah, I went out to get a couple dead cactuses. I kicked them over and put my hand down about six inches from the top and stopped. I heard something. I told George Nichiporenko, "Go get a flashlight. There's bees in here." He came back and there were two rattlers in there. I had my hand within about six inches of two rattlers. I still got the rattle of one here in a drawer.

**- After your training in the desert where were you first sent?**

**Hartwell:** We went down to San Francisco and then down to Hawaii. We got really good training there. And then we went to New Guinea. In New Guinea, mostly all we did was unload boats. I remember the smell. I always called it billy goat, but it was supposed to be sheep, or mouton, that we ate. You could smell it two miles outside of camp cooking. From there, we went to the island of Morotai and that's where we really got into fighting. We had to clean the island off because [the U.S.] had planes that'd come in and land there at night [for re-fueling] and the Japs would [attack] the guys while we were filling them up. We always filled the planes up at nights because it was so wet there that the planes would draw moisture into the gas. They'd get up in the air and start spitting and sputtering. We had about six square miles we had to clean the Japs out of. The first two [kills] we got was on Christmas Day. We got them and then came in and had our Christmas dinner on the beach. They brought it in on a PT boat. Turkey, we ate turkey.

**- You ate pretty good, then. What did you usually eat? Rations?**

**Hartwell:** A lot of the time, yeah. But for Christmas, we always got turkey. We left [Morotai not long after that] on one of these barges. They had a tank in the bottom. We rode that through the China Sea and went through a storm. We were halfway out of the water and we'd go up and down. Our bunks were on top. They wouldn't let us down below [because] some of them [barges] had broken in half. They used to make them right up here near LaSalle-Peru or some place in there. That thing would raise up and just shiver and we'd hang on a rail to keep from getting washed over. And that's when we went over into The Philippines.

**- You spent a lot of time in The Philippines, didn't you?**

**Hartwell:** Yeah. Most of my time was in The Philippines. I was out behind Jap lines one time for about ten days. There was about ten of us. When we got back, I hadn't shaved or had my shoes off or nothing for ten days. [When we were out there,] the plane would come flying over and we'd take white paper and put it down to make a cross. They'd drop C-rations there. We'd grab them and run into a jungle so the Japs didn't see them kicking them out of the plane. We'd then move to a different spot; we wouldn't stay right there where they came down. Old C-10s I think they were, those planes. You'd open the doors and just kick the boxes out.

When we got done [with that mission] and came back in, I had an attack of appendicitis. That night, I got to go to the medics. At about 4 o'clock they found out it was my appendix and told me they'd take it out the next day. And so, they took out my appendix in an old school house. It was this building they took and used as a hospital.

**- You said you were behind enemy lines for 10 days and didn't even take your shoes off. Did that kind of thing often cause problems with your feet? Soreness?**

**Hartwell:** No. Too much mud, I think. We waded in places where the mud was up to here, clear up to the chest. When I got to see the doctors, one asked me how long I'd been up there on the line fighting. I said, "Well, we've been up there a hundred days." He said, "You need a rest." He asked which outfit I was with. I told him the 33<sup>rd</sup> Division, the 136<sup>th</sup> Infantry. He said, "You need a rest. We're gonna take them out tomorrow." But they sent me back out when I got out of the hospital. They sent me out to the road and told me to go back to my outfit. They didn't even have a truck pick me up. So I got out to the road and I decided [to go the other way]. I'd heard my brothers were down this way and they were closer then my unit was if I went the other way. The first truck that came by, I thumbed a ride, got in the backend of the truck and rode down to where my two brothers was, in the 37<sup>th</sup> division. I got out of the truck and walked over to them. They looked at me and said, "Where the heck you been?" I told them I was in the hospital and said I just got out. They told me to go back to my outfit. I told them I didn't know where it was at. I think it was that night yet that they took me back to my outfit. They worked in the company headquarters. They had a Jeep so they could take me.

Two days later, they put me back up on the line and I couldn't take it cause of all that walking up and down them mountains and digging foxholes. It was too much. They took me out of the outfit for a couple of days then so I could get rested up a bit.

**- Other than having your appendix out, did you have any other wounds or injuries while you were fighting?**

**Hartwell:** Nope. We had a hard timekeeping from drowning during the night, though. We'd get those big rains and we had to keep using our steel helmets to bail the water out of the holes all night long.

**- What about your ranks throughout the war?**

**Hartwell:** I started out as a Buck Private as they called them. And then I went to PFC, private first class. From there, I was a Corporal. As a Corporal, I was at the rear end of our platoon or squad. We had a squad that was like ten per squad—twelve of us total counting the Sergeant at the front and me in the back. And then, I was made a Sergeant. We got into fighting in The Philippines and I ended up leading the whole platoon just as a Buck Sergeant. I then became a Staff Sergeant. They even put me in for a Master Sergeant and put me in for a commission [as Lieutenant] the same day, the same time. The commission came through before the promotion to Sergeant did. I was commissioned in the field as 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant. The company commander of the 136<sup>th</sup> Infantry was commissioned in World War 1 as a Lieutenant and he thought more of us guys who were out there fighting for two years than these guys just out of Fort Benning, Georgia, who were there for maybe 90 days and then came over there.

**- You were in the Philippines for a couple of years?**

**Hartwell:** About a year and a half. Then when the war ended, they took us over to Japan right where we were supposed to go in [if the war had still be going]. We trained for about two months. Or a month or so. My platoon that I was leading, we were trained with flame throwers. We were supposed to go in and knock all the pillboxes out with the guys with machine guns before the rest of the troops got in there. We were right in the rice patties, too, where we would have went in. I don't know. Probably nobody had been there before and they didn't know where it was at. But up on the side of the mountain they had these great big guns—about 16-inch guns that would shoot at you.

**- Were they operating even though the war was over?**

**Hartwell:** No, when it ended, they took us in a different spot. You probably saw the video, that was us, the 136<sup>th</sup> Infantry, going in. [In The Philippines,] we fought up to Baguio, that was the summer capital of The Philippines. We fought up to there and cleaned the Japs out. That tape shows us on the way to Baguio. And then I went into Japan. I was in there about three months. We left over there just before Christmas. I got into Seattle on Christmas.

What we did in Japan, we had to help clean up all the guns and make them burn them, melt them, throw them in the smelter. I burnt 40 airplanes on one field. Well, I made the Japs burn them. I didn't do it. We put ten barrels of gas and two barrels of oil in each plane. They weren't big as this table when we were done; they'd burn right down to nothing.

**- Was everything pretty much destroyed when you got to Japan?**

**Hartwell:** Oh yeah. There wasn't much left.

**- But you didn't actually go into Hiroshima or Nagasaki of course.**

**Hartwell:** No. They wouldn't let us go in there where they dropped the bombs. But we saw pictures.

We had three interpreters—I didn't have them all at the same time—but they were each born in the United States and the Japs made them come back to Japan. I should say “the Japanese,” I suppose, instead of “Japs.” They made them come back to Japan and tried to get them into the service but they couldn't get them in because they were American citizens. They were born in California. I always had them with me when I'd go down to burn those planes. I always took one with me. I got so that towards the end, though, that I could understand [Japanese a little]. They have something like townships there. There was one head guy for each six square miles. I'd go down to talk to him and tell him how many men I'd want [to help us burn the planes]. I got so I could understand him a little bit. I'd say something in response to him and the interpreter would say, “You know what he said?” And I'd say yeah. He didn't believe I'd picked it up that quick.

**- How long were you in Japan for the clean up?**

**Hartwell:** We was in there from about the 15<sup>th</sup> of September til, ah, it must have been about—with seven or eight days to come home, it must been about the 18<sup>th</sup> day of December, or something like that.

**- You were there quite awhile then.**

**Hartwell:** Yeah. What was the scariest of that was when I went up into the mountains. I had to go check a schoolhouse about 40 miles up in the mountains. We weren't supposed to take no gun with us or nothing. They'd put their equipment all in a schoolhouse and we had to go up there and count it. They had a piece of paper with how much was in there—how many rifles, how many bayonets and all that stuff.

Of course, I got in trouble once. I carried a little .32 with me. I had a shoulder holster hidden underneath so you wouldn't even know I had it. The gun I carried was a little rusty so I went into where all the guns were stored and found a real nice one made in Belgium. I took it, laid it down. And a Japanese guy was there with me as I was counting. He said, "You can't do that" and I said, "Why not?" I pulled the clip out of mine, laid the rusty one I had down, and picked up the good one.

When we drove into that town near that schoolhouse, the Japs never saw us coming. All at once, they saw the Jeep and hollered "Americana!" That's what they called us. They started disappearing like flies. That was scary. They were just gone. After we got up there [to the schoolhouse], it was alright. They understood what we were there for. But it was pretty scary when we first went in to the town. We were 40 miles up there and the only guy you got with you is the Sergeant driving the Jeep.

**- I am surprised they sent you up there without more guys and even telling you not to arm yourself.**

What surprised me was that up in those mountains, they'd build with boards a trench for the spring water to run down. They use that for washing their clothes and washing their food. All done in that little thing.

**- I bet the water looked real clean, too.**

**Hartwell:** Yeah, it did after they got done. They used it for the bathroom, too.

**- Well, that brings up something else. Wherever you fought, you had to clean the water you'd pull out of rivers to drink, right? Put chlorine in it?**

**Hartwell:** You'd put the water in [your canteen] and you were supposed to leave the chlorine in it for an hour or so before you were supposed to drink it. This one kid in my platoon drank it [without doing that] and the company commander saw it. He came back and chewed me out because he did that. We went on up the crick a little ways and there lay a dead Jap in the water. He'd been there a long time. I said, "Hey, come here." I showed him that boy, he started gagging and throwing up. He dumped out his canteen. Boy, he didn't do that anymore I will tell you that. I didn't have any more trouble with him.

**- When you were in Japan cleaning up, were you allowed to take things? You said you traded for that .32.**

**Hartwell:** Well, I had gotten a camera off one Jap I captured and a rifle, a bayonet and a pistol. That's the gun I have upstairs, that army rifle. That's from a guy I captured. I didn't trade for that. Or maybe I did trade for it.

**- Don't you have a sword, too?**

**Hartwell:** Well, I don't know how I got them for sure.

**- Didn't you have a Japanese flag?**

**Hartwell:** Oh, I have a whole bunch of them. I had a big one that I loaned to Steve [Sauer] to take down to Lincoln. He put it up in the window and a Japanese student come in there and she said, "Oh the rising sun!" That's what they called it. You know, most of those people their bedrooms are always to the East. So the sun comes up in the morning and it's the rising sun.

One time in The Philippines, I took a patrol out. I had ten guys with me. I look over and here's these ten dead Americans lying there. The Japs had shot them. We were supposed to see if there were any Japanese in this area. We got back and they finally told me there was supposed to be about 5,000 Japanese in that area eating breakfast when we got there. They had just left—the charcoal was still hot and everything. We had these observation planes in the area—planes like what Richard Hawker flies, one of those Piper Cubs. And he came down and wanted to know if it was OK to land. I said, "I don't know!" They landed and went into that area and got a lot of flags and a whole bunch of souvenirs. The Japs had just pulled out quickly. The word must have gotten to them that we were on our way or they saw us and got out of there. But [when I took my ten guys on patrol], I sure didn't know they were supposed to be 5,000 there. I don't know if I would have went that way or not. Probably would of gone the other way.

**- There were a few times where you got close to injury or worse. You told me about an explosion in your tent, I think?**

**Hartwell:** That was when we were in New Guinea. My platoon sergeant went out on a practice range and picked up a rifle grenade. He came into our tent about noon while we were sitting there waiting to go to lunch. He sat there and tore that grenade apart. He got blowed up and another guy got his leg blowed off. And this McDonald that lives down here in Indiana—he was in my squad all the time—he and I were sitting around in the tent and when this guy tore that grenade up, he got a piece in the leg. I went down and gave blood at the Red Cross for him. I always teased him that he has some of my blood in him. They took a pint of blood out of me. They claimed they were gonna give me \$10 for giving blood. But I never did see it. They did give me a shot of whiskey. It's supposed to build your blood back up.

**- What stopped you from getting hurt?**

**Hartwell:** See, around the center pole of the tent is where we had all our duffel bags. With six of us in there, we had a lot of stuff right there. Also, our clothes were hanging over the poles. It rained a lot down there; it was the rainy season. In fact, we had 30 days where we never saw the sun. Our clothes were all moldy and damp—you could smell them. They got pretty well riddled when that grenade went off. No one could believe that dumb sergeant was dumb enough to take that grenade in there and try to open it up. They said he was sitting there taking it apart while we were waiting to go to lunch. I never even knew he had it in there.

**- If you had known he had it, you wouldn't have sat there.**

**Hartwell:** No. At one of the reunions, my company commander and a colonel were talking about that going off and I said, "Yeah, I was in there." McDonald said, "I was too." They looked at us like we were lying. But we weren't lying. We were in there. We just happened to be lucky that all that stuff was in the middle of the tent. If we had a regular building, we'd probably all have been dead.

**- So you still have reunions with your division?**

**Hartwell:** Yeah, every two years. Next year we go to Peoria in September. When I started, we went to Springfield and Indianapolis and Kentucky and then Tennessee a year ago. Nashville.

**- What do you do at the reunions?**

**Hartwell:** Just see the guys. Some of them go out golfing and such. When I started going, I think there were 20 of us that came from our company. Last year, we had about 4 or 5 is all that come. I was 22 when I went in but a lot of these guys were quite a bit older. You know, they were going to the reunions but a lot of them are now in their 80s and 90s. That was 50 years ago. They took guys up to the age of 45—and we had a guy in our platoon who was 44 years old. This guy, a skinny little guy wanted to carry a B.A.R.—not the M-1 rifle.

We were out in Washington one morning—in Tacoma, Washington at Fort Lewis—and I saw this guy and I thought, “Boy, he looks like my Uncle Roy Hertz.” He was 45 at the time and they drafted him. He was out there doing calisthenics as we were running by. I knew it was him. I looked up and saw the number on the building so I could go back and find him. He was in a building, but there wasn’t enough room out there for all of us. We actually lived in tents with a little coal burner or something for heat in the wintertime. There wasn’t room in the barracks for all of us. Anyway, I went back over there then to find my uncle Roy. I went over and saw him and he was sitting there writing a letter. He didn’t really believe it that I found him.

**- So your dad’s younger brother was in the war with you?**

**Hartwell:** At the same time. He was in a different company.

**- So, back to doing the clean up work in Japan. It was getting to be the end of your four years, right?**

**Hartwell:** Well, I had enough points to come home before I even went into Japan but I went in there anyway because my number hadn’t come up. They give you so many points for the time you are in. If you was in there for say 200 days and I was only in 190, I’d have to wait my turn. The guys who had 200, for instance, got to come home. Others had to wait. They offered me a chance to stay for three more months, I could have been a 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant . I told them, “You keep the rank. I am going home.” I had enough points to go home.

I got into Japan burning those planes, and one plane, the sergeant never checked the front gun on it. It had one wheel on it and it went down like this and the shell went off. When it went off, I hit the ground. The Sergeant said, “Gas tank.” I looked in front of me and there laid a piece of shrapnel about that big. I reached out and picked it up. It was hot because it’d just come out of that gun. I said, “Gas tank, hell.”

Right before I came back, the company commander wanted to send me out the next morning. I said, “You know, I really don’t have to go do that.” He said, “Oh yeah, you do.” I said, “You call Colonel Cabot and see what he says.” He’s the one who sent me down for commission. He had sent out papers saying that anyone with enough points to go home didn’t have to go out and do any dangerous job. But I kept doing that job of burning planes because I started that so I stayed with it until I had all those planes burnt. And then they sent me home. It seemed like a long war, though.

**- You were in the war for pretty much the duration of the war. How long had the U.S. been in the war when you were drafted?**

**Hartwell:** Not very long. My two brothers were in and fighting in Guadal Canal and the Figi Islands. Fighting then was just jumping from one island to another getting the Japs out. It shouldn’t have never been started in the first place. Pearl Harbor shouldn’t have happened. I think we were lax and let them get in there. When they were coming in to Pearl Harbor, I don’t know where the hell everybody was. Of course, it was on a Sunday I think. Everyone was gone; no one around the camp. But they’d been warned. Somebody had warned them that Jap boats were out there, aircraft carriers and such.

**- Some people actually allege that the U.S. knew but let it happen as a way to get us into the war.**

**Hartwell:** Well, the head of the Japanese government was down in Washington D.C. when it happened so they should have known something was going on.

**- Do you feel we shouldn’t have been in that war?**

**Hartwell:** We had to keep them from getting them in the United States and taking over. It was our job.

**- But you were glad to get home when it was over, huh?**

**Hartwell:** Yup. We landed on Christmas Eve in Seattle. Another Lieutenant and I got off the boat because we knew they weren't going all the way to Fort Lewis. He and I went up to a big hotel and signed in. We got a turkey dinner, a 7-course turkey dinner. The next morning, I said, "Boy I like oysters. There's an oyster place right down here." I went down and got a big old plate of fried oysters. And then I sat down and ate a half-gallon of ice cream. I couldn't keep it all down—all that rich food after eating all that other crap. Well, I don't know if it was crap. K-rations and C-rations and chocolate bars.

When we first went to Tennessee, they had a chocolate bar—real hard chocolate. They'd give us that and a little box of raisins. They took us out in the woods where there were a lot of chiggers that'd chew your legs all up at night. They wanted to see if we could live three days without anything else. About the second day, I opened up my raisins and here the worms were crawling around—and I'd already ate a bunch. That didn't make you feel good.

One time we were on a hike down there and I think we got lost that day because of the company commander. I think we ended up walking 32 miles. I could hardly walk. My arches were all broken down. The road down there was just where the two wheels of an automobile had gone through. The trenches in the road were about this deep. It was all full of dust. A lot of time, we had to put on our gas masks on because we couldn't walk in all that dust we were kicking up. When we go to the yard of this house, we saw two little kids in diapers. They said, "Hello, you damn Yankees!" That's the way they are down there. They were still fighting the civil war when we went in there back in the 1940s. We went into a store one night. Nichiporenko was there. I asked the lady, "You all got this here?" I don't remember what it was we were after but the clerk looked at me and said, "You aren't from the South." She knew I wasn't no hillbilly.

One night after we were down there a couple months, George and I were going to town. On the way to town, he said, "Boy, I wish I was 500 miles from here." I said, "Where's that at?" And he said, "Manteno." And I said, "My address is Kankakee." That's why we've always been together.

**- So you just found out then that you were from the same area?**

**Hartwell:** We were always [together]. We got out of Fort Lewis, Washington, sometimes and would go up to Seattle. My aunt lived in Seattle. We'd go up there on Saturdays and help cut pine trees for their fireplace. We'd take the car out and cut them up and put them in the trunk. That's all they had for heat. We'd stay overnight and sometimes I'd go up there for a holiday. One time we went up there and we saw these Scots who were wearing their skirts, the kilts. One was 350 pounds, the other probably 375. They were big guys and playing their bagpipes. We had quite a Christmas party up there one time.

**- So when you got home after the war, you ate everything you could and then what?**

**Hartwell:** It took us about 10 days to get out of there. We came back to Chicago here. I still had a couple weeks of vacation coming. It was in February when I was finally discharged. I got the [discharge slip] in my pocket but I doubt we can read it anymore. I actually had two [discharge notices]. I was out of the army at one time. They discharged me one time over there so they could take me down and give me my commission as a Sergeant.

**- Oh, how long were you discharged for?**

**Hartwell:** Just for that day. I went down and saw the company commander and General Clarkson. He pinned the bars on me.

**- So “commission” basically means getting your bars?**

**Hartwell:** Yeah. It's getting a higher rank. The company commander called me down that morning and asked me if I'd be interested in the commission. Ogilvie from out in California was with me. The two of us went down. The company commander asked me about the commission and I said, “Hell no” and I walked out. About an hour later, he called me and told me Colonel Cabot wanted to see me and I said, “Holy Moses, what did I do now?” It was about 10 or 10:30 in the morning, and the colonel said, “At one o'clock I want you ready to go down to division headquarters because we're commissioning you as 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant. “ And I had told the company commander I didn't want it! It was already in and all went through and was planned.

**- So as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant, what were your duties?**

**Hartwell:** I was leading. I had to lead that platoon and get them ready to go into Japan and knock those pillboxes out. That was my job. And there were two other platoons that was supposed to follow us in and cover us as we went in. One of the recent Division newsletters I got said that had we gone in there, not a third of us would have made it. That's what they said. A third was all they figured would have survived ... I'll have to dig them division papers up and show you.

Last year, they wanted us to go back over there to where we were supposed to land to celebrate, you know? They had a boat all lined up and everything. They wanted \$5,000 to go over there. You know, fly from here over there and getting on a boat. I figured that \$5,000 would come in handy someplace else instead of going back over there.

**- During the fighting, did you often get caught in heavy fire?**

**Hartwell:** Yeah. I laid beside a log one day for over 2 hours. The Japs kept shooting the bark off. I couldn't even reach into my pocket to get me something to eat, one of them chocolate bars.

**- Is that the time you kept sticking your foot out?**

**Hartwell:** No, this is a different time. That time, we was going down this road and the Japs started shooting at us. I was behind a tree. I'd stick my head out and he'd shoot. I figured, “I'm not gonna get out of here” so I put my helmet on my hand and he wouldn't shoot at it. I put it on my foot and stick it out, he wouldn't shoot. But I put it on my head and just like that, he'd shoot. He was knocking the bark off the tree. Finally, they set up two machine guns with criss-cross fire like this here and he was all by himself out there. They got him.

**- In the war, were there guys who tried to get shot just to get sent home? Did you see any of that?**

**Hartwell:** We had some new recruits who came in one day. Took them out the first day and one of them got shot in the hand and the other one got shot in the foot. Course they didn't have enough training. When they fired a shot, I went down there digging a hole. Them guys would stand there looking around to see where it was coming from. I still can do that today yet. If it's close enough, I am down on the ground.

Well, on the island of Morotai, we were out there and they saw some Japanese out there. We went out to see if we could find them. Somebody spotted them and they called for the artillery. They shot a 75 millimeter artillery shell out there. It might have been a hundred and five. I don't know. Anyway, that shot came out and you could hear that thing coming through the air. It sounded like a freight train. It hit the tree about 12 feet over my head. I heard a couple of my guys in my platoon scream. I knew they got hit. I went down and one guy got a chunk in the shoulder. Another guy got one the back. Two of the guys, I never did see them again. They were from up in Rockford here. But you know, there's so many guys you can't keep track of them or stay in touch. I would have liked to look them up after the war but I never could find them.

When you hear one of those shells coming like that, you get on your hands and knees so that you'll bounce. I got up and I was [feeling my back]. I had a pack on with all my clothes and blankets and stuff. I couldn't find any blood. I couldn't believe it. That's why I am a little hard of hearing, too. I was shell-shocked, too. When somebody shoots at you.

**Helen:** Yeah, we couldn't go to the Fourth of July things for quite a while.

**Hartwell:** Well, we never did. Never had since.

**- But when Bonfield had the fireworks, you could probably hear it here.**

**Hartwell:** Oh yeah, but that wasn't so bad. It's when you are close and there's that boom. Just like here over in Herscher at Labor Day. They set that one off at 10:30 when the parade is going to start. Ka-BOOM. You were in college when they buried my brother Elwin, weren't you? Well, we went to the cemetery and of course he was military and so they shot those blanks. We had Michelle with us. She was holding my hand and that went off, I jerked like that. I told her, "Now be careful, I might give you a pull when they do that!" When that goes off and you ain't looking for it, it shakes you up.

**- How long after the war was it until you got married? You got back in February...**

**Helen:** We got married in March.

**- Before you were drafted, were you engaged?**

**Both:** No.

**Hartwell:** We got engaged when I was in Hawaii. I sent her a ring from Hawaii.

**Helen:** I think his sister did it.

**Hartwell:** I found it in a jewelry store through the Kankakee paper. I sent the money to Blanch and Edna and told them to give it to her. They worked at Roper's making shells.

**- I am assuming you sent a lot of letters back and forth?**

**Helen:** Yeah. It took a long time sometimes to get them.

**Hartwell:** Well, I will tell you: We were out there fighting. You were never near or camp or nothing. You didn't even have a light at night.

When we were on the island of Morotai, at about 2 o'clock in the morning, the Japanese always came over with a plane that sounded like a Maytag washing machine motor. One night, we were laying in the foxhole looking up and that plane was coming right straight down—like it was going to come right in the foxhole. That scares the heck out of you, too. But you didn't get up and run until it got down low enough to see which way to go.

**- What happened?**

**Hartwell:** It just hit the ground, burnt up.

**- How close to you was it?**

**Hartwell:** Oh, it was quite a ways. When they first shot it down, it was at 20,000 to 30,000 feet so it was a long ways down. My two brothers, when they landed in The Philippines, they landed right there at the dock near where we were. But these suicide pilots would come down and hit the boats—knock the mask off the top of the boat right there at the dock. Didn't blow the ship up, but could have. These here planes were like what Richard Hawker's, that little plane he's had. He had one of them over there. He had five Japanese airplanes [painted] on the side. They'd take after him in one of those little piper cubs, doing observations for the artillery. He'd go down like this towards the water and pull it up. Those Japanese planes would be going so fast they'd go right in the water. He downed five planes that way. He'd get up there and tease them and then they'd take after him and he'd just go down like this, pull up quick. Those things pulled up well and those other guys would be going 300 to 500 miles per hour. They didn't have a chance.

One day, one pilot came down to us and wanted some grenades. I said, "What for?" He said, "There's a bunch of Japanese taking a bath on the beach without any clothes on." We gave him a bunch of grenades and he'd go over top of them, pull the pin and throw the grenades over. He had as much fun as anybody did.

Well, that's about all I have.

**Helen:** Another sad day was when Dennis was called to go.

**- To Vietnam?**

**Helen:** They were married already so he and Shirley came here and stayed overnight. Then we took them up to Penney's parking lot. That's the first time I saw [Hartwell] cry. He said, "I fought four years and now my son has to go." That was hard to take.

**- So, you would have rather it was you fighting than your son going off?**

**Hartwell:** Yeah.

**Helen:** We always thought that he did his part and that the war was over—but then Denny had to go.

**Hartwell:** Well, the reason Denny had to go was that he was born on the wrong day of the year. His birthday is the 19<sup>th</sup> of May. If it was the 18<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup>, he wouldn't have had to go. There were so many kids who were born after World War II and were just old enough to go that they just picked days of the month. And they picked the 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Helen:** He called me that night. He said, "Ma, are you sure I was born the 19<sup>th</sup> of May?" I said, "Yes, you were."

**Hartwell:** We had the birth certificate and there was nothing you could do about it.

**- Wow. You had to then deal with two hard times: having your fiancé in war and your son in war.**

**Helen:** For so many years, we thought we had settled things—but they didn't. I don't know how long Denny was gone. I can't remember.

**Hartwell:** He was in Vietnam for a year. He was in the United States for training for at least 6 months or longer.

Well, that's about all I can tell you about anything.

**- OK. Grandma, do you have anything else to add?**

**Helen:** I just hope my grandkids don't have to go to war. But you never know. I didn't think Denny would have to go, but he did.

**- I bet there were a lot of sleepless nights for you.**

**Helen:** The letters, some of them would be two or three months old. Some I would get right away.

**Hartwell:** Well, they censored all your letters that I wrote. Whenever you wrote a letter, they censored it. I tell ya, that old Jap woman Tokyo Rose—she'd come on the radio and tell us where we were at, where we were going. She knew more about it than we did. We'd move from one island to another, and she always knew. She knew more than our newsmen. She'd say, "The 33<sup>rd</sup> Division is going..." and she was right. They always knew where we were going. And there was nothing you could do about it.

**- During that time, what did you get for compensation?**

**Hartwell:** When we went in, it was for \$25 a month. That's what we got. And our meals and our clothes. As a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant, I ended up at \$175 but I had to buy my own clothes and pay for meals. That's why I said I wished they'd have left me as a Sergeant! As a Sergeant, I got my meals and still got \$175. I did have to buy my clothes, though. Of course, over there in Japan I didn't need any dress uniform. That's what that hat is that I have—a dress uniform hat.

**- Well, I think that's probably it for our talk. Thank you both.**







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