

Please sign this petition and send letters/postcards of support!



**National Campaign for a U.S. Commemorative Stamp
Honoring the Contributions of the Nisei World War II Soldiers**

Please support the national campaign for a United States commemorative stamp honoring the significant contributions of the Japanese American "Nisei" in the U.S. Army during World War II ("Nisei" means the American-born children of Japanese immigrants). Some highlights of the Japanese American WWII contributions include the following:

- Over 20,000 Japanese Americans enlisted in the U.S. Army in WWII, despite the misguided and widespread prejudice against them following Japan's 1941 Pearl Harbor attack. Thousands of soldiers came from the "internment camps." These veterans would later openly admit that they fought to prove their loyalty to America. Congress would later apologize for the en masse WWII incarceration of American citizens and permanent residents of Japanese ancestry as "a grave injustice" that grew mainly from "racial prejudice, wartime hysteria, and a failure of political leadership" (*Civil Liberties Act of 1988*).
- Japanese Americans served in a number of capacities in the U.S. Army during the WWII era both at home and abroad. The most famous unit, the 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team, earned the distinction as being the most decorated unit for its size and length of service in American history (*Medal of Honor Ceremony, July 15, 2000*).
- The 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team's "Rescue of the Lost Battalion" was acknowledged to be one of the prominent battles in Army history. This battle became one of sixteen depicted in "The Army in Action" series of paintings for the U.S. Army's Center of Military History. They led a heroic drive through German lines in the Vosges Mountains in October 1944 freeing over 200 fellow American soldiers of the 36th Texas Division. The state of Texas named the Nisei soldiers "Honorary Texans" for this act.
- Japanese American soldiers in Europe were critical in breaking the German "Gothic Line." They liberated towns such as Bruyeres, Biffontaine, and Belvedere. They also freed and aided Holocaust victims from the Dachau concentration camps.
- The Military Intelligence Service's key role in the Pacific, using Japanese American soldiers' knowledge of the Japanese language and culture to help fight the enemy, was estimated by General Douglas McArthur's intelligence chief, Major General Charles A. Willoughby, to have shortened the war by at least two years and saved countless lives in the process. The M.I.S. was awarded a Presidential Unit Citation for their contributions to the war effort.
- Japanese American soldiers of WWII were honored with nine Presidential Unit Citations and twenty-one Medals of Honor.

For more information and to join in this campaign, please contact

www.NiseiStamp.org

Nisei WWII Soldiers Stamp Campaign

Campaign Coordinator: Wayne Osako, (714) 534-5139

By signing this petition, I agree that a commemorative U.S. postage stamp should be created soon, honoring the contributions and sacrifice of the Japanese American "Nisei" soldiers in World War II.

Sign only once. Thank you.

Printed Name	Signature	Address	Date

10 Signatures Per Page

Mail ORIGINALS to Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee, U.S. Postal Service - Stamp Development, 1735 North Lynn Street, Suite 5013, Arlington, Virginia 22209-6432

Mail one copy to JACL Headquarters, 1765 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94115.

*After signing, please send letters or postcards of support, and contact your state and Congressional representatives to request support of this stamp.
Thank you!*

DATE: _____

**Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee
United States Postal Service - Stamp Development
1735 North Lynn Street, Suite 5013
Arlington, Virginia 22209-6432**

Re: Postage Stamp to Honor Japanese American World War II Soldiers, "The Nisei"

Dear Postmaster General Potter, Chairman Robinson, and Honorable Stamp Committee Members,

Please support the nationwide effort for a United States commemorative stamp to honor a historic group of American patriots that are at the heart of our nation's military history: Americans of Japanese ancestry who served in World War II. These Americans served mainly in the 100th Infantry Battalion / 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and Military Intelligence Service (M.I.S.). Also commonly called the "Nisei" (or second generation, American-born children of Japanese immigrants), this group of soldiers is one of the shining examples of patriotic sacrifice in our nation's history, for these men served with outstanding valor despite war hysteria and racism against them, including incarceration in internment camps—as documented in the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, signed into law by President Ronald Reagan. The Postal Service has issued similar stamps honoring minority veterans, remembering Latinos in uniform in "Hispanic Americans: A Proud Heritage" (1984), and the special African American Army unit, "Buffalo Soldiers" (1994). The Nisei soldiers of World War II have set an extremely high benchmark for our Armed Forces, and theirs is a proud legacy. The 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team is the most decorated unit for its size and length of service in American history. The Military Intelligence Service's key role in the Pacific, using their knowledge of the Japanese language and culture to help fight the enemy, is estimated by General Douglas McArthur's intelligence chief to have shortened the war by at least two years and saved countless lives in the process. Among their many awards Japanese American WWII soldiers earned 9 Presidential Unit Citations and 21 Medals of Honor. Please support the stamp proposal to honor the Japanese American "Nisei" World War II soldiers soon. Thank you.

SPACE FOR PERSONAL MESSAGE (Optional) - Use the back of this page for more space:

Sincerely,

Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Address: _____