



## BUILDING 640 COMMUNIQUE

Information Source for the Military Intelligence Service Historic Learning Center

NATIONAL JAPANESE AMERICAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NOVEMBER 2010

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[NVN Press Release]  
On Oct 5, 2010, President Barack Obama signed bill S.B. 1055 into law, introduced by Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA) and Congressman Adam Schiff (D-CA) to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Japanese American soldiers of the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team and Military Intelligence Service (MIS).

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## CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL HIGHEST CIVILIAN HONOR AWARDED



White House Signing with President Obama, Oct 5, 2010

The Congressional Gold Medal is Congress' highest civilian honor. Before it can be presented for vote, two-thirds of both the House and Senate are required to sign on as cosponsors. Rep. Adam Schiff (D-CA) initiated the legislation in the House as H.R. 347 and it was passed with approximately 300 co-sponsors in May 2009. The National Veterans Network supported Senator Boxer's work in the Senate on behalf of the legislation with a nationwide grassroots campaign

to secure the 73 co-sponsors. Senator Boxer said, ***"I am so pleased that the Senate is honoring these courageous soldiers with a Congressional Gold Medal for their service to the United States during World War II. These brave Japanese Americans enlisted in the Army and fought for their country even as many of their family members and friends were sent to internment camps. This recognition***

***of their service and patriotism is long overdue."***

On the campaign of this legislation, Rep. Schiff applauded its passage by the Senate. "After the bombing of Pearl Harbor incited doubts about the loyalty of Japanese Americans, these brave men who enlisted to fight to protect our nation were faced with segregated training conditions, families and friends relocated to internment camps

See MEDAL AWARD p.3.

## PRIVATE DONORS SOUGHT REHAB TO BEGIN LEASE FINALIZED- FEDERAL FUNDING AWARDED

### LEGACY OF THE NISEI SOLDIER.

November 14, 12 —3pm. Presidio of San Francisco. NJAHS, the Presidio Trust co-sponsored a special Veterans Day Weekend ceremony and tribute to the 100/442/MIS veterans and their families at the Presidio Officers Club to announce the

signing of the Congressional Gold Medal and the imminent signing of Cooperative Agreement between NJAHS & the Presidio Trust. Families representing multiple generations attended the ceremony and luncheon. Final details are be-

ing worked out between the NJAHS-Presidio Trust agreement to rehabilitate Building 640 for adaptive reuse into the MIS Historic Learning Center and to insure its long-term viability. Building 640, at Crissy

See REHAB p.3.

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Rehab to Begin
- Veterans Ceremony
- Opportunities to Give

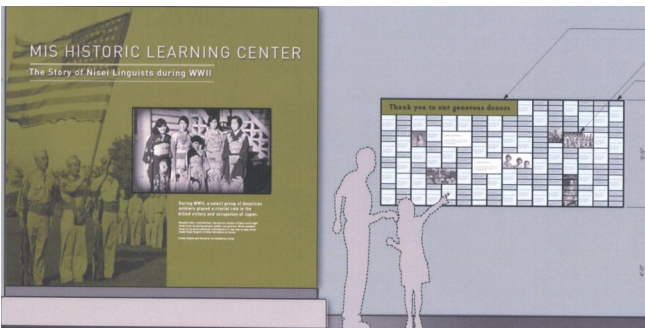


## OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE

### What are the ways that I can donate to the MIS Historic Learning Center?

You can make your donation with a check, credit card through our website. You can pledge to donate a certain amount over several payments and we will automatically deduct from your credit card according to your payment plan. Another great way to support the project is through the donation of stock and real estate or naming NJAHS: MIS Historic Learning Center as a beneficiary in a will. If you wish to do this, please contact us!

### What does my donation support?



- 1. NJAHS: MIS Historic Learning Center Capital Fund.** You can support the preservation and rehabilitation of the building, its LEED certification requirements and build-out amenities.
- 2. NJAHS: MIS Legacy Fund.** You can support the interpretive components — the design and fabrication of the permanent exhibit, the ongoing operations of the Center, and its long-term sustainability .
- 3. NJAHS.** Or you can let us choose which fund to place your donation toward the project.

If you would like to designate your gift to a particular purpose, please contact us to discuss what you would like to do.

### Can I dedicate my donation in honor or memory of a family member or friend?

Yes, now with a minimum donation of \$2,500. The requirement is 38 characters or less.

### What are the suggested donation levels?

Your donation is tax deductible to the extent allowable by law. NJAHS is a California non-profit corporation operating under IRS Federal Tax ID #94-2778424. All donations shall be recognized in our ongoing capital campaign materials.

#### LEADERSHIP CIRCLE

\$1,000,000	Kansha - Gratitude
\$500,000	On - Indebted Obligation
\$250,000	Toku - Virtue
\$100,000	Shinbo - Perseverance

#### STEWARDSHIP CIRCLE

\$50,000	Kyosei – Mutual Rewarding Co-existence
\$25,000	Tamashii – Spirit, Soul
\$10,000	Wago – Alignment of Purpose

#### LEGACY CIRCLE

\$5,000	Heiwa - Peace
\$2,500	Yuuki– Courage

### The Inaugural Donor Wall and Naming Opportunities

All gifts of \$2,500 and above will be acknowledged on a special Inaugural Donor Wall inside Building 640. There's also **naming opportunities for areas of Building 640 for Leadership Gifts.** Possible opportunities will be naming the Lobby, Main Gallery, Orientation Theater, Permanent Exhibit, MIS Board Room, Meditation Garden, MIS Classroom, Mission Map Room and others. Please contact us if you are interested in any of these.

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## CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL AWARD FROM PAGE 1

and repeated questions about their combat abilities," Rep. Schiff said. ***"Man for man, they were the most highly decorated combat units of the war. I can't imagine a group more deserving of Congress' highest honor."***

Commonly known as the Go For Broke regiments, the 100th/442nd is the most highly decorated unit for its size and length of service in U.S. military history. Among the many awards and distinctions earned through the bravery and sacrifice of soldiers of these units are: 7 Presidential Unit Citations, 21 Medals of Honor, 29 Distinguished Service Crosses, 560 Silver Stars with 28 Oak Leaf Clusters, 22 Legion of Merit Medals, 15 Soldier's Medals, 4,000 Bronze Stars and more than 4,000 Purple Hearts.

The contributions of the 6,000 Japanese American soldiers who served in the highly classified MIS were not known until passage of the Freedom of Information Act in 1974.

Their work proved to be vital to U.S. military successes in the Pacific Theatre, from China to Guadalcanal, Iwo Jima to Leyte, and in occupied Japan. The MIS has been credited with shortening the war in the Pacific and saving countless Allied lives. President Bill Clinton honored the MIS with a Presidential Unit Citation in 2000.

The National Veterans Network is an alliance of 22 World War II veterans' organizations and nonprofits from throughout the United States whose missions are to serve the interests of the Japanese American World War II veterans and to preserve the Japanese American WWII experience. Participating organizations include: Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA), Washington DC; National Japanese American Memorial Foundation, Washington DC; National Japanese American Veterans Council, Washington DC; National Japanese American Citizens League, Washington DC; Chicago Nisei Post 1183/American Legion, Chicago, IL; Houston JACL, Houston, TX; Japanese American Veterans of Minnesota, MN;

Oregon Nisei Veterans, Portland, OR; Oregon Nikkei Endowment, Portland OR and Nisei Veterans Committee, Seattle WA.

Additional National Veterans Network participants are **National Japanese American Historical Society**, San Francisco, CA; Friends and Family of Nisei Veterans, San Francisco, CA; Pinedale Assembly Center Memorial Project, Fresno, CA; Go For Broke National Education Center, Torrance, CA; 100/442 Veterans Association, Los Angeles, CA; MIS Club of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA; Nisei Veterans Coordinating Council, Los Angeles, CA; 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Club, Honolulu, HI; 442nd RCT Veterans Club, Honolulu, HI; MIS Club of Hawaii, Honolulu, HI; Go For Broke Association, Honolulu, HI and Nisei Veterans Memorial Center, Maui, Kahului, HI.

"I am so pleased that the Senate is honoring these courageous soldiers with a Congressional Gold Medal for their service to the United States during World War II. These brave Japanese Americans enlisted in the Army and fought for their country even as many of their family members and friends were sent to internment camps. This recognition of their service and patriotism is long overdue."

-SEN. BARBARA BOXER

## PRIVATE DOLLARS TO MATCH REHAB DOLLARS

### REHAB. Continued from p. 1

Field, Presidio of San Francisco is home of the first US Army Military Intelligence Service Language School where 58 Nisei and 2 Caucasian enlisted men trained secretly, one month before Pearl Harbor. From these humble beginnings, the bicultural talents of the Nisei graduates were proven during WWII. Due to E.O. 9066, the school moved to Camp Savage and Fort Snelling, Minnesota and eventually developed into the renowned Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center at the Presidio of Monterey. This modest hangar was discovered still standing in 1991, during the 50th anniversary

of the MIS. Under the vision of Col. Thomas Sakamoto (first class graduate) and succeeding presidents including Steve Hirabayashi, Robert Otsuka, Richard Kishimoto, Ken Kaji, Harry Fukuhara, and Ken Kawaichi, the preservation efforts continued. To date, the project received nearly 4.8 million dollars in public support since 2005 for planning, feasibility, interpretation, exhibition planning, building design, preservation and rehabilitation. Private dollars (Phase One Goal: \$1.2 million) is being sought to match these funds to complete the rehab to meet LEED certification (energy efficiency), produce the

permanent exhibition, build out visitor amenities and raise operating support. The Cooperative Agreement authorizes the Presidio Trust and NJAHS to jointly preserve and rehabilitate this historic site and assumes NJAHS' long term tenant-operatorship of Building 640 to conduct its public programming and interpretation. Once the agreement is signed, the development team will be assembled to begin the rehabilitation and build-out of the MIS Historic Learning Center. Completion is expected in November 2011, around the 70th anniversary of the birth of the Military Intelligence Service. □

**We are on the web!**  
**www.njahs.org**



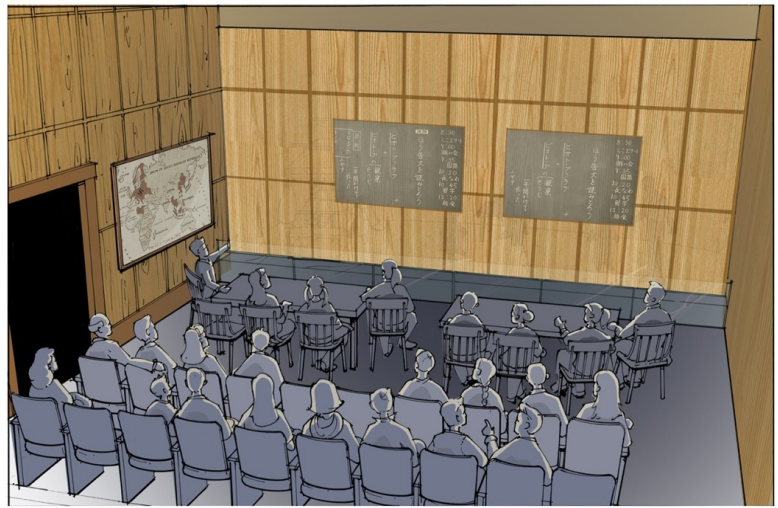
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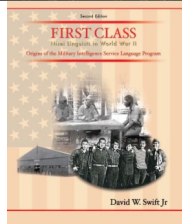
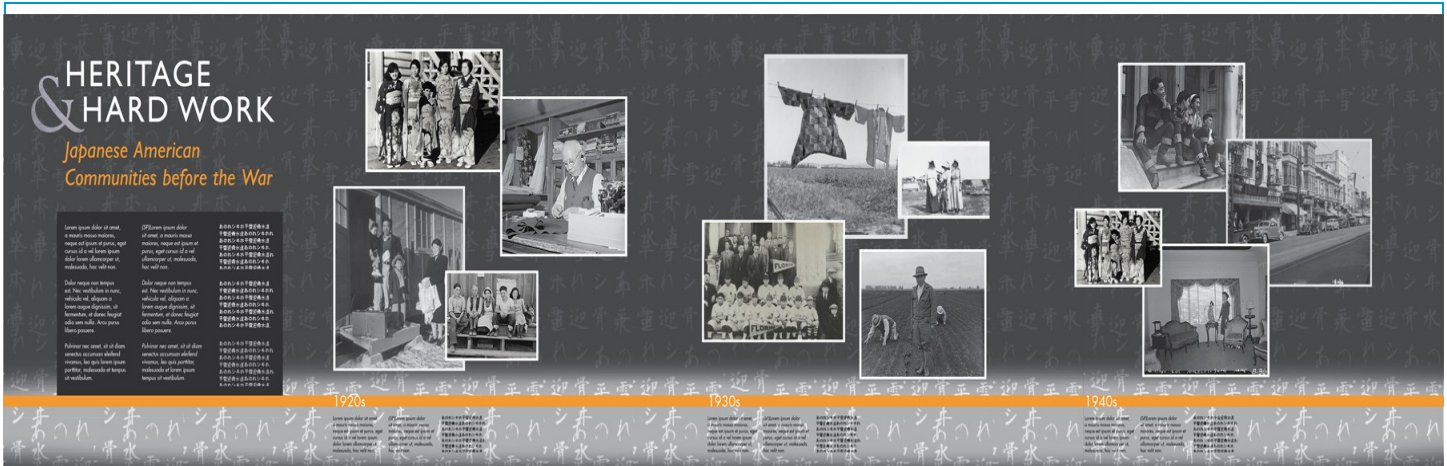
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Above: Mock - up of MIS classroom, 1941.

Below: Sample Exhibit Panel, West Office Exhibition Design Services.



**DVD- BOOKS AVAILABLE!**



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Payment Type:  Check# \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  First Class (pb) @\$26.95 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card:  Visa  MC  AMEX  Discover  
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 Address \_\_\_\_\_  ONLY THE BRAVE DVD @\$25 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_  
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 City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Sales Taxes CA residences x (.095)= \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ S&H \$6 per book\*= \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ I would like to donate to NJAHS to help defray costs for programs: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ V Code \_\_\_\_\_ (last 3 digits on back of card)

\*International orders, call for shipping fees. **Payable to NJAHS, 1684 Post Street, SF, CA 94115- 3604**

**FC/NL 11-10**