

debate final amendments. Votes will begin at 2 p.m. on the remaining amendments and on final passage of foreign operations and on any votes ordered in relation to the Labor appropriations bill. Further votes are expected throughout this evening's session. I thank my colleagues for their cooperation.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business, not to extend beyond the hour of 10 a.m., with the time to be equally divided between the Senator from Hawaii, Mr. AKAKA, and the majority leader, or his designee.

The Senator from Hawaii.

TRIBUTE TO ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN MEDAL OF HONOR WINNERS

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I stand here today to pay tribute to the 22 men who received the Medal of Honor yesterday. As has been indicated by a number of my colleagues, one of those recipients is my dear friend and colleague from Hawaii, Senator DANIEL K. INOUE. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to:

Senator DANIEL K. INOUE, Second Lieutenant, 442nd Regimental Combat Team;

Rudolph Davila, Staff Sergeant, 3rd Army;

Barney Hajiro, Private First Class, 442nd RCT;

Mikio Hasemoto, Private, 100th Battalion;

Joe Hayashi, Private First Class, 442nd RCT;

Shizuya Hayashi, Private, 100th Battalion;

Yeiki Kobashigawa, Technical Sergeant, 100th Battalion;

Robert Kuroda, Staff Sergeant, 442nd RCT;

Kaoru Moto, Private First Class, 100th Battalion;

Kiyoshi Muranaga, Private First Class, 442nd RCT;

Masato Nakae, Private First Class, 100th Battalion;

Sinyei Nakamine, Private, 100th Battalion;

William Nakamura, Private First Class, 442nd RCT;

Joe Nishimoto, Private, 442nd RCT;

Allan Ohata, Staff Sergeant, 100th Battalion;

James Okubo, Technical Sergeant, 442nd RCT;

Yukio Okutsu, Technical Sergeant, 442nd RCT;

Frank Ono, Private First Class, 442nd RCT;

Kazuo Otani, Staff Sergeant, 442nd RCT;

George Sakato, Private, 442nd RCT;
Ted Tanouye, Technical Sergeant, 442nd RCT;

Francis Wai, Captain, 34th Division.

Mr. President, these 22 Medal of Honor recipients have joined an elite group of soldiers honored for exceptional valor in service to our country. It may have taken half a century, but the passage of time has not diminished the magnificence of their courage. These 22 men truly represent the best that America has to offer. They answered the call to duty and proved that patriotism is solely a circumstance of the heart. These men answered the call of duty with conviction and courage, at a time when these virtues were most in demand by a needy Nation. In the face of discrimination and injustice at home, these men set aside personal consideration to defend our great Nation on foreign battlefields. By their actions, these 22 men proved that patriotism is not based on the color of one's skin, but on the courage and strength of one's convictions.

I am pleased to have contributed to the process that finally led to the appropriate recognition of these soldiers. Legislation initiated by the Senate required the military to review the records of all Asian Pacific American recipients of the Navy Cross or Distinguished Service Cross during World War II to determine if any merit upgrade to the Medal of Honor.

Many times I have been asked why I thought review was necessary. The review provision was offered and adopted out of concern that Asian Pacific American veterans have never been fully recognized for their military contributions during the Second World War.

Many in Hawaii know of the exploits of the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team. It came as a surprise that few on the mainland were familiar with the service of this famous all-Nisei, second generation Japanese unit, or of the secret Military Intelligence Service whose members served in the Pacific.

Twenty of the twenty two Medal of Honor recipients honored yesterday and today are from the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team. Of the remaining two recipients, Sergeant Francis Davila served with the 7th Infantry and Captain Francis Wai served with the 34th Division.

Few people realize the history of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. On December 7, 1941, during the attack on Pearl Harbor, a call went out for all University of Hawaii ROTC members to report for duty. These students, most of whom were Americans of Japanese ancestry, responded to the call and were fully prepared to defend the United States. 370 of the Japanese American ROTC cadets were sworn into the Hawaii Territorial Guard and guarded the most sensitive and important installations in Hawaii.

Due to the shock at the attack on Pearl Harbor and an unfortunate ignorance by some of the culture and racial makeup of the citizens of Hawaii, there were individuals who opposed Japanese Americans serving in the Territorial Guard. The 370 Japanese Americans who had served faithfully, willingly, and patriotically during the weeks following Pearl Harbor, were dismissed from the Territorial Guard because of their ancestry. Instead of rebelling, resigning, or protesting, these men wrote to the Commanding General of the Hawaiian Department and stated their "willingness to do their part as loyal Americans in every way" and offered themselves for "whatever you may see fit to use us."

These men formed the Varsity Victory Volunteers and worked at the quarries, constructed roads, helped construct warehouses, renovated quarters, strung barbed wire, and built chairs, tables, and lamps. They even donated blood and bought bonds. We cannot forget that these men were students and could have been making money in white collar jobs.

Instead, they devoted their time to doing what they could to help the military. It was this group of Japanese American volunteers, the Varsity Victory Volunteers, who were eventually given the authorization by the War Department to form the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, which would earn the distinction as the "most decorated unit for its size and length of service in the history of the United States."

Their motto, "Go for Broke," is a perfect description of their spirit and character as men and as a fighting unit. The 442nd and 100th Battalion captured enemy positions and rescued comrades. They completed missions that seemed impossible. Ignoring danger, they repeatedly placed themselves in harm's way, gaining a reputation for fearless and fierce fighting. Throughout the Army their bravery earned them the nickname the "Purple Heart Battalion."

In 1943, when the War Department decided to accept Nisei volunteers, over 1,000 Hawaii Nisei volunteered on the first day. The spirit and attitude of these volunteers is captured in the senior Senator from Hawaii's memoir, "Journey to Washington."

I want to read an excerpt from the book describing an exchange between young DAN INOUE and his father as he left to report for induction.

After a long period of silence between us, he said unexpectedly, "You know what 'on' means?"

"Yes," I replied. On is at the very heart of Japanese culture. On requires that when one man is aided by another, he incurs a debt that is never canceled, one that must be repaid at every opportunity.

"The Inoues have great on for America," my father said. "It has been good to us. And now it is you who must try to return the goodness. You are my first son, and you are very precious to your mother and me, but you must do what must be done."

Mr. President, for over 60 years, my friend and colleague, the senior Senator from Hawaii, has returned to