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# 100th Battalion Of 442nd Infantry Has Distinguished Military History

HONOLULU (AP) — The 100th Battalion of the 442nd Infantry, called to active duty Thursday, has a distinguished military history, but few of those who helped attain this distinction remain in the unit.

Americans of Japanese ancestry made up the unit when it was organized in 1942. Its membership now reflects Hawaii's multi-racial population.

Following the attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii Americans of

Japanese ancestry who were then in the military service were put together as an active duty unit to be known as the 100th Infantry Battalion.

Later, when the government permitted induction of A.J.A.'s into military service, island Nisei (second generation Japanese) volunteered in order to prove their loyalty to the United States and, and with Mainland Nisei, were organized as the 442nd Regimental Combat

Team.

The 100th went to Europe first, and was soon followed by the 442nd. The 100th was merged into the 442nd in Italy and became the 1st battalion of 442nd, but was permitted to keep its designation as the 100th Battalion.

The Niseis fought in major battles in Italy and France during World War II. The 442nd

came out of the war with five major campaigns to its credit and three presidential unit citations. It was the most honored unit of its size in the war.

When the Army Reserve was reorganized and World War II units were redesignated some eight years ago, the 100th Battalion and the 442nd were the only units to keep their designations. . . ."