



Secy. of
Hood River Post of the
American Legion

Hood River
Oregon



14 Mar 45

Dear Sirs:

An interesting clipping from the
Philadelphia (Pa.) Evening Bulletin of
November 14, 1944.

Sincerely
Sgt Henry Dickinson

JAP BUTLER GIVES 2 SONS FOR U.S.

One before Death Wrote:

'America is a Damn
Good Country'

Belmont, Mass., Nov. 13—(AP)—
"America is a damn good country,
and don't let anyone tell you other-
wise."

That's an excerpt from George
Saito's letter to his father, Kiichi,
a Japanese butler, after another son
of the family, Calvin, had been kill-
ed in action in Italy on July 7.

Three months later George also
died in action in France.

They were two of the first five
Japanese-Americans at the Amache
Colorado relocation camp to volun-
teer for Army service when the War
Department granted the privilege in
February, 1943.

Still another son, Shozo, is in the
armed forces.

Kiichi's sorrow is great but the
pride in his sons has made it bear-
able.

George's letter reciting the de-
tails of how Calvin died a hero "per-
sonally directing and guiding the
fire on positions which routed the
enemy" helps.

It said:

"Dad, this is no time to be preach-
ing to you, but I have something on
my chest which I want you to hear.
In spite of Cal's supreme sac-
rifice, don't let anyone tell you that
he was foolish or made a mistake to
volunteer.

"Of what I've seen in my travels
on our mission I am more than
convinced that we've done the right
thing in spite of what has happened
in the past."

Kiichi was born in Morika, Japan,
came to this country as a young
man, served as a head waiter in a
Los Angeles hotel and later worked
as a gardener on the coast.

His fourth son, Kazuo, is a war
worker in Chicag and his only
daughter, Mary, is employed at the
International Institute House in
Boston.

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