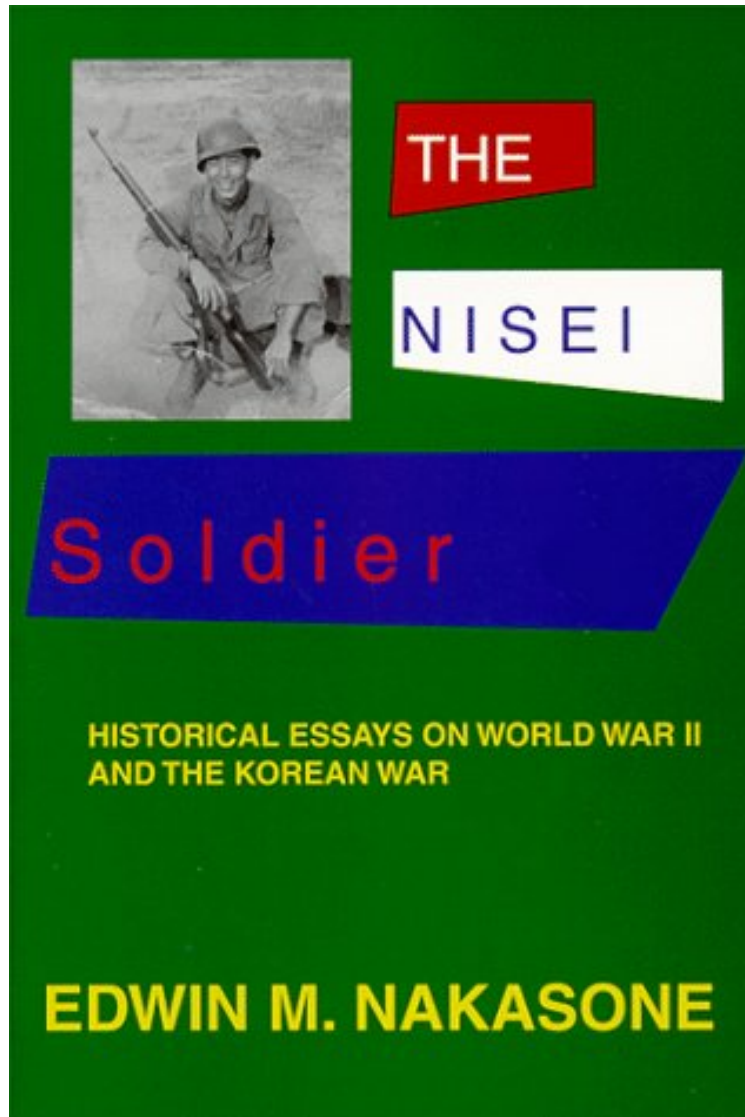


(Mobile book) The Nisei Soldier : Historical Essays on World War II and the Korean War, 2nd ed.

## The Nisei Soldier : Historical Essays on World War II and the Korean War, 2nd ed.

*Edwin M. Nakasone*

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**Edwin M. Nakasone : The Nisei Soldier : Historical Essays on World War II and the Korean War, 2nd ed.** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Nisei Soldier : Historical Essays on World War II and the Korean War, 2nd ed.:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The narrative text is rich in descriptive detail By Midwest Book Review In The Nisei Solder: Historical Essays On World War II And The Korean War, Edwin Nakasone draws upon

his expertise having taught Asian-American and World War II history from more than 25 years to write a highly informative account of Japanese-American soldiers called "Nisei", who fought to defend American interests, despite discrimination accorded them and their families by the people and government of the United States. The narrative text is rich in descriptive detail, based on Nakasone's own experiences (he served as a Nisei in the U.S. Army's occupation forces in Japan at the end of the war), supplemented with extensive interviews with Nisei soldiers. In addition to offering the reader an informative Japanese-American perspective, Nakasone's essays also explore the Japanese perspectives on World War II not often available to an American reader. The Nisei Soldier is a very highly recommended addition to any personal, professional, academic, or community library World War II history collection. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Excellent for homeschoolers! By A Customer I am a homeschooler using this book to enrich my children's understanding of history. This book presents valuable Japanese perspectives that are not discussed in mainstream education. All of the foreign terms are clearly explained, and the book is very easy to understand. I highly recommend this book for anyone who is interested in gaining a unique insight into World War II and the Korean War! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. My view of the books material. By A Customer This book is very interesting and easy to understand. It has made my views of the U.S. battle against Japan in WWII very different. My views were very limited to my past knowledge and this book has expanded that view to a greater understanding.

This second edition of *The Nisei Soldier* has added six more essays to the original five in the first edition. These new essays continue the theme of providing a synoptic view of World War II, especially from the Japanese-American perspective. A full understanding of this most significant event requires that we attempt to examine it from as many perspectives as possible. One of these perspectives, an often neglected one, is that of the Japanese American citizens who, though they participated in the war to defend their country as outstanding soldiers, were also persecuted by their government and distrusted by other Americans. In essence, then, this book is the story of the remarkable Japanese American citizens, and of their little known participation in and experience of the events of World War II. There can be little doubt that the participation of Japanese American citizens in World War II was one of the decisive factors in bringing the war to an end.

"Fascinating reading . . . appealing . . . I think because it is so personalized. Fanaticism (by both sides) that was particularly the case in the Pacific war also comes through and it is always useful (though rare) to see conflict through the eyes of one's foes. -- Robert Geise, Professor of History Having a keen interest in WWII I found it interesting to be able to read of different perspectives and accounts of individuals involved instead of just the overall [events]. I was compelled to read each story twice! -- Luke Bockman, history student From the Publisher Edwin M. Nakasone brings special credentials to his task of writing *The Nisei Soldier*. First, as a young man, the author lived through many of the events he recounts in the book, including the bombing of Pearl Harbor and the U.S. occupation of Japan. Second, Nakasone is of Japanese ancestry himself. Third, Nakasone is a professor of history and has taught Asian-American and world War II history for over 25 years. Professor Nakasone, in *The Nisei Soldier*, brings to life a part of history that has been neglected—the account of Japanese-American soldiers, the Nisei, as they fought bravely for their newly adopted country despite the discrimination accorded them by the people and government of the U.S.A. Nakasone's narrative is rich in descriptive detail, based not only upon his own experiences but extensive interviews he had with the soldiers of whom he writes as well. From the Author The 2d edition of *The Nisei Soldier* is an expanded and extended version of the 1st edition. I continue to view the conflicts from both the Japanese and Asian viewpoints. I have chosen to present historical essays on World War II and the Korean War concerning people and events that are hardly common knowledge to the American and international reading public. Allow me to say a few words about some of them to reinforce my point. The essay on "Japan's Oskar Schindler," Chiune (Sempo) Sugihara, relates the super human humanitarian efforts of a Japanese diplomat who saved over 8,000 Jews from the death jaws of the German Nazi death camps and machines. To this day he is not accorded the national nor the international praises and honors that he richly deserves. Then we have the heart rending stories of the dilemma of the Japanese Peruvians and Japanese Latin Americans who were wrenched, nay, in some cases, kidnapped from their adopted Latin American countries and shipped to the United States and imprisoned in the wartime camps set up by our Immigration and Naturalization Service. They were pawns to be exchanged for American civilian prisoners in areas over-run by the conquering Japanese Army. At the end of the war they were declared illegal immigrants and were shipped to Japan or Latin America (Peru would not accept them, except for a few). Read too, how an unfortunate Nisei woman was cajoled and deceived by publicity seeking journalists and how U.S. government attorneys stripped the woman of all her constitutional rights and imprisoned her as the traitorous "Tokyo Rose." Did you know that America was balloon-bombed during WWII? Japan sent more than 10,000 giant balloons with bombs on them to continental North America. Some landed as far inland as Michigan. This was only one of Japan's desperate WWII tactics that failed. The old Japanese adage, "Yesterday's enemy is today's friend" is aptly shown in the article on Colonel Spady Koyama, a Nisei WWII, Korean War and Vietnam War veteran. Spady befriended a Japanese WWII POW and their friendship has

continued to this day. This is only one example of how Japanese-Americans have helped to promote the friendly relations between the U.S.A. and Japan today. Japanese-American participation in the Korean War is also not well known to the American public today. The intriguing, sad, yet courageous travails of one Nisei soldier, Susumu Shinagawa, who was captured early in the war and spent more than 33 months in Korean captivity, is told in this monograph in his own words. The "Tiger Death March" is a must reading. In the epilogue I bring the reader up to date as to how modern Japan and Japanese view the Nikkeis (all those with blood ties to Japan) today. Also, I discuss how the modern day Japanese continue to classify foreigners as "GAIJIN," with their individual placement in Japan's social ladder. It is my hope that *The Nisei Soldier*, 2nd edition, will interest and enrich you in the contributions of Japanese Americans, historically and culturally.