

## Authors' Notes

*Cherry Blossoms in the Storm* is a fictional story woven around people, places, events, organizations and entities in the World War II era. The information below is provided to assist readers who wish to find out more about this period of history with their own research. There are historical figures referenced, and in some cases, characters who existed as real people, but whose names have been changed due to liberties taken with their dialogue and actions. All other characters are fictional.

Real Historical People	
Name	Description and Notes
President Franklin D. Roosevelt (FDR)	The 32 <sup>nd</sup> president of the United States. Excerpts of his speech on December 8, 1941, asking Congress to declare war on Japan are used in the chapter Day of Infamy.
Emperor Hirohito (Showa)	Reigning monarch of Japan from 1926 to 1989.
Sen no Rikyu	16 <sup>th</sup> century tea ceremony master for Nobunaga Oda and Hideyoshi Toyotomi. Later ordered to commit suicide by Hideyoshi.
Nobunaga Oda	A powerful warlord in the 16 <sup>th</sup> century who unified most of the warring fiefdoms of Japan. Later deposed and killed by one of his generals, Mitsuhide Akechi.
Hideyoshi Toyotomi	Preeminent samurai warlord in the 16 <sup>th</sup> century who assumed control of Japan after Nobunaga Oda's death. He also became imperial regent or <i>Kampaku</i> .
Lieutenant General John L. DeWitt	Commanding officer of Western Defense Command. Presidio of San Francisco. Recommended to FDR the wholesale evacuation of all Japanese Americans from the West Coast. The poster announcing the evacuation has his name listed as the ordering authority.
General Charles W. Ryder	Commanding officer of 34 <sup>th</sup> Division, 7 <sup>th</sup> U.S. Army, whose 133 <sup>rd</sup> Regiment fought side-by-side with the 100 <sup>th</sup> Battalion/442 <sup>nd</sup> RCT. He had high

<b>Real Historical People</b>	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Description and Notes</b>
	praise for the success of the <i>Nisei</i> combat units.
Shigeru Fujii	First defendant mentioned in the indictment and court trial of 63 draft resisters from the Heart Mountain internment camp.
King George III	Monarch of Great Britain and Ireland from 1760 to 1820.
Captain Young Oak Kim	Highly-decorated Korean American officer in the 442 <sup>nd</sup> Regiment, U.S. Army.
General John Dahlquist	Commanding officer of 36 <sup>th</sup> Division, 7 <sup>th</sup> U.S. Army who ordered the 442 <sup>nd</sup> Regiment to rescue the “Lost Battalion.”
General Mitsuru Ushijima	Commander of the 32nd Imperial Japanese Army. He perished along with 107,000+ Japanese soldiers during the Battle of Okinawa.
Chiune Sugihara, Japanese diplomat	Known as the Japanese “Oskar Schindler,” he was the Japanese Vice Consul to Lithuania who saved thousands of Jews from the Nazis.
Akio Morita	Cofounder and former chairman of Sony Corporation.
President Harry S. Truman	The 33 <sup>rd</sup> president of the United States. On July 15, 1946, Truman honored the 442 <sup>nd</sup> RCT for their heroics. He is also the president who authorized the dropping of the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

<b>Fictional Characters based upon Real People</b>	
<b>Fictional Name</b>	<b>Real Name and Description</b>
Chaplain Yukawa	Real name: Chaplain Yoshida. Not much is known about him, e.g., whether he was a Christian or Buddhist chaplain. He is credited for the idea of having the Hawaiian soldiers visit Jerome and Rohwer incarceration camps in Arkansas.
Samuel Meyer	Real name: Samuel Menin, defense lawyer for the 63 Heart Mountain draft

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<b>Fictional Name</b>	<b>Real Name and Description</b>
	resisters.
Carl Stacker	Real name: Carl Sackett, prosecutor in the trial of the draft resisters.
Thomas Blake	Real name: T. Blake Kennedy, presiding judge in the trial of the draft resisters.
Robert Gilbertson	Real name: Guy Robertson. Director of the Heart Mountain War Relocation Authority camp.
Kazuo Hashimoto	Real name: unknown. There is a record of a 60-year-old Japanese American man imprisoned at McNeil Island at the same time as the resisters. There is no evidence that he had significant interaction with any of the resisters.
Lt. Colonel Virgil Melton, Colonel Perry (commander of the 442nd), Captain Whelan	Real name: Lt. Colonel Virgil Miller Colonel Pence, and Captain Wheatley. Officers in the 442 <sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team.
Lt. Marty Higdon	Real name: Lt. Marty Higgins Highest ranking surviving officer of the 141 <sup>st</sup> "Lost Battalion" that the 442 <sup>nd</sup> rescued in the Vosges Mountains in France.

<b>Historical Timeline Pertaining to the Novel</b>		
<b>Date/Year</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Description and Notes</b>
8 February 1904 – 5 September 1905	Russo-Japanese War	Russia and Japan fought over imperialist ambitions they both had over Manchuria and Korea. Japan resoundingly defeated Russia.
30 September 1929	Baseball American League standings	Philadelphia Athletics win the American League pennant 18 games ahead of the second place NY Yankees. The A's go on to defeat the Chicago Cubs in the World Series.
October 28 and 29, 1929	Black Monday and Black Tuesday leading to stock market crash	Major collapse of the stock markets, triggering the worldwide Great Depression that lasts until WWII.

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<b>Fictional Name</b>		<b>Real Name and Description</b>
September 19, 1931	Japanese invasion of Manchuria	After a series of "incidents," the Japanese army begin occupation of Manchuria.
July 7, 1937 – September 9, 1945	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sino-Japanese War	War between the Republic of China and the Empire of Japan. Lasting all the way until the surrender of Japan.
December 7, 1941	Pearl Harbor Bombing	Japanese air and naval forces attack U.S. military bases at Pearl Harbor.
December 8, 1941	Declaration of War against Japan	President Franklin D. Roosevelt requests and receives a declaration of war from Congress.
25 December 1941	Surrender of Hong Kong to Japan	Outmatched British forces surrender to Japan.
15 February 1942	Surrender of Singapore to Japan	British forces surrender Singapore to Japan in what is described as Britain's worst military defeat in history.
25 February 1942	Beginning of Japanese American Incarceration	Evacuation of Japanese Americans from the West Coast into incarceration camps begins after FDR signs Executive Order 9066 on 19 February 1942.
26 June 1944	Judgment and verdict date in trial of 63 Heart Mountain draft resisters – Cheyenne, WY	Judge T. Blake Kennedy finds all 63 defendants in the United States vs. Shigeru Fujii, et al , trial guilty for draft evasion. Sentenced to three years in the federal penitentiary.
1 April 1945 – 21 June 1945	Battle of Okinawa	Last major battle of WWII for the U.S. military on Okinawa.
8 May 1945	Surrender of Germany VE Day	Unconditional surrender of Germany to allied forces.
6 August and 9 August 1945	Atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki	Devastating nuclear blasts kill over 100,000 in Hiroshima and 70,000 in Nagasaki.
10 August 1945 – 2	Surrender of Japan	On 10 August 1945, Emperor Hirohito goes on the airwaves

<b>Fictional Characters based upon Real People</b>		
<b>Fictional Name</b>		<b>Real Name and Description</b>
September 1945	VJ Day	for the first time to announce Japan's defeat. Unconditional surrender announced on 15 August 1945. Surrender document signed about the U.S.S. Missouri on 2 September 1945.
28 August 1952	Occupation of Japan ends	Occupation authority headed by General Douglas MacArthur formally ends. Japan is once again an independent nation.
1955	TR-55 Transistor Radio	Sony, then known as Tokyo Telecommunications Engineering Corp., introduces the portable transistor radio.

<b>Historical Laws and Other Legal Instruments</b>	
<b>Item</b>	<b>Description and Notes</b>
California Alien Land Laws of 1913 and 1920	Prohibited "aliens ineligible for citizenship" from owning agricultural land or possessing long-term leases over it, but permitted leases lasting up to three years. In 1920, the law was amended to prohibit even the 3-year leases.
Peace Preservation Laws	A series of laws enacted during pre-war Japan, designed to suppress political dissent.
Executive Order 9066	Presidential executive order signed by FDR on February 19, 1942, authorizing the evacuation of Japanese Americans from the West Coast.
Selective Training and Service Act of 1940, 50 United States Code, Appendix 311	Federal law authorizing the military draft.
United States vs Shigeru Fujii, et al,	Indictment and court case against the 63 draft resisters from Heart Mountain War Relocation internment camp.
McCarran-Walter Immigration Act	Enacted June 27, 1952), also known as the McCarran-Walter Act, restricted immigration into the U.S. The Act

<b>Historical Laws and Other Legal Instruments</b>	
<b>Item</b>	<b>Description and Notes</b>
	governs primarily immigration to and citizenship in the United States.

<b>Actual Places</b>	
<b>Place</b>	<b>Description and Notes</b>
Kumamoto, Japan	A city in southwestern Japan. This location was chosen due to its proximity to Ariake Bay, where Japanese pilots practiced their bombing runs for Pearl Harbor.
Mountain View and Palo Alto, California	Small cities at the southern end of the San Francisco Peninsula and part of the Santa Clara Valley, which today is referred to as Silicon Valley. Japanese Americans who lived there were incarcerated during WWII.
Santa Anita Racetrack, Arcadia, California	A horse racing track in Southern California, which was converted into one of the temporary camps until construction of the ten main incarceration camps were completed.
Heart Mountain War Relocation Camp, Wyoming	One of the ten incarceration camps, located in northwest Wyoming that housed over 10,000 Japanese Americans during WWII.
Fukuoka, Japan	A major city in southwestern Japan.
Camp Shelby, Mississippi	Training camp of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team.
Rohwer and Jerome War Relocation camps in Arkansas	Two of the ten main incarceration camps.
Cheyenne, Wyoming	Cheyenne in southeastern Wyoming was the actual site of the trial of the 63 Heart Mountain draft resisters.
Civitavecchia, Italy	Port city close to Rome where the 442nd regiment first arrived in Europe.
Belvedere, Italy	Site of the 442nd's first battle. Victory was achieved largely through the effort of the more experienced 100th Battalion.
McNeil Island, Washington State	Location of one of the two federal penitentiaries where Japanese American draft resisters were

<b>Actual Places</b>	
<b>Place</b>	<b>Description and Notes</b>
	imprisoned. The other location was Fort Leavenworth in Kansas.
Saga and Takeo, Japan	Saga: A medium-sized city about 45 miles northeast of Kumamoto, seat of Saga Prefecture. Takeo: A smaller city in Saga Prefecture.
Biffontaine, Belmont-Sur-Buttant, Bruyeres, France	Small towns in the Vosges Mountains in the Lorraine Department in France. Battle sites where 442nd engaged German forces.
Okinawa Island	Main island of the Okinawa and Ryukyu Islands situated approximately 400 miles southwest of the rest of Japan. Site of the last major battle of WWII.
Sasebo, Japan	A medium-sized city in southwestern Japan in Nagasaki Prefecture. Site of a major Japanese naval base that was used by the U.S. Navy at the conclusion of WWII.

<b>Real Organizations and Entities</b>	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Description and Notes</b>
Kempeitai	Secret military police arm of the Imperial Japanese Army, analogous to the Nazi Gestapo of the same era.
No-No Boys	Colloquial term for the Japanese American men who answered no to questions 27 and 28 on the loyalty questionnaire.
Fair Play Committee	Japanese American group that help organize the draft resistance movement during WWII, particularly active at Heart Mountain.
Japanese American Citizens League (JACL)	National civil rights advocacy organization for people of Japanese American descent.
442 <sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team	The most highly decorated unit of its size and duration of service in the history of the U.S. military. It was comprised almost exclusively of

	Japanese American men in 3 battalions, the 100 <sup>th</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , and 3 <sup>rd</sup> .
32 <sup>nd</sup> Imperial Japanese Army	Commanded by Gen. Ushijima, the 32 <sup>nd</sup> army was ordered to defend Okinawa against American forces.

<b>Fictional Entities</b>	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Description and Notes</b>
Tokyo Maru	Fictional name for the ocean liner in the Prologue.
Kokura Army Base (Arsenal)	The Kokura military base in southwestern Japan was one of the largest arsenals. There is no evidence that this facility was used as training base as is fictionally depicted in this story.

The following Books provide additional information:

*Behind Barbed Wire: The Imprisonment of Japanese Americans During World War II* (1982, E. P. Dutton, Inc.) by Daniel S. Davis

*Colors of Confinement Rare Kodachrome Photographs of Japanese American Incarceration in World War II* (2012, The University of North Carolina Press) edited by Eric L. Muller with photographs by Bill Manbo

*Dear Miye Letters Home from Japan 1939-1946* (1995, Stanford University Press) by Mary Kimoto Tomita

*Farewell to Manzanar* (1973, Bantam Books) by Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston. True story of the author's family uprooted from the Los Angeles area to internment camp in the forbidding climes of Manzanar in the desert region of the southeastern California.

*Free to Die for Their Country* (2001, U. of Chicago Press) by Eric L. Muller, law professor at U. North Carolina. Historical account of the trial of the 63 Heart Mountain draft resisters.

*Impounded* (2008, W. W. Norton & Company, Inc.) Dorothea Lange and the Censored Images of Japanese American Internment by Linda Gordon and Gary Y. Ohihiro.

*Japanese Americans from Relocation to Redress* (1991, University of Washington Press) by Daniels, Taylor, Kitano.



*Just Americans* (2006, Gotham Books) by Robert Asahina. Account of the 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team.

*Okinawa: The Last Battle of WWII* (1995, Viking Press) by Robert Leckie. A historical narrative of the Battle of Okinawa, which was the last big battle of WWII.

*One Thousand Days in Siberia: The Odyssey of a Japanese-American POW* (1997, University of Nebraska Press) by Iwao Peter Sano

*Quiet Heros: A Century of American Quakers' Love and Help for the Japanese and Japanese-Americans* (2014, International Productions) by Tsukasa Sugimura. Stories of how American Quakers helped Japanese Americans incarcerated in the WRA camps.

*The Battle for Okinawa* (1995, J. Wiley & Co.) by Lt. Colonel Hiromichi Yahara, chief strategist for defense of Okinawa by Imperial Japanese Army. An interesting account told from the Japanese perspective.

*Triumphs of Faith* (1998, Japanese-American Internment Project) by Victor N. Okada – Personal experiences of Japanese Americans in the incarceration camps.

*Yankee Samurai* (1979, Pettigrew Enterprises) by Joseph D. Harrington. Story of Japanese American soldiers who served in the Military Intelligence Service and elsewhere in the Pacific theater of WWII.

### **Web Sites and/or Videos:**

[www.densho.org](http://www.densho.org) : A massive library of recorded video interviews of people who were in the internment camps and in prewar Japan.

[http://www.nps.gov/parkhistory/online\\_books/anthropology74/ce6a.htm](http://www.nps.gov/parkhistory/online_books/anthropology74/ce6a.htm)  
Description of Heart Mountain incarceration camp

[www.DiscoverNikkei.org](http://www.DiscoverNikkei.org) : assorted articles and video interviews of Japanese Americans

[www.HeartMountain.org](http://www.HeartMountain.org) : info on the Heart Mountain Relocation Center that imprisoned more than 14,000 people from Aug. 1942-Nov. 1945.

[www.Katonk.com](http://www.Katonk.com) and [www.goforbroke.org](http://www.goforbroke.org) : articles on the exploits of the 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT and 100<sup>th</sup> Hawaiian Battalion.

<http://www.asian-nation.org/442.shtml> : Asian Nation, article on the 442nd - Rescue of the Lost Battalion.

[http://www.pbs.org/itvs/conscience/resistance/mass\\_trial/](http://www.pbs.org/itvs/conscience/resistance/mass_trial/) : historical facts of the trial of 63 Heart Mountain draft resisters

<http://aad.archives.gov/aad/fielded-search.jsp?dt=2003&cat=WR26&tf=F&bc=,sl>  
National Archives database - Japanese Americans Relocated During World War II

[http://www.criticalpast.com/video/65675065593\\_Japanese-American-442nd-Regimental-Combat-Team\\_Soldiers-treated-at-medical-aid-station\\_Combat-Team-casualties\\_Fallen-soldiers\\_Wounded-queue-up-at-aid-station](http://www.criticalpast.com/video/65675065593_Japanese-American-442nd-Regimental-Combat-Team_Soldiers-treated-at-medical-aid-station_Combat-Team-casualties_Fallen-soldiers_Wounded-queue-up-at-aid-station) : 442nd video clip.

[http://ww2db.com/battle\\_spec.php?battle\\_id=217](http://ww2db.com/battle_spec.php?battle_id=217) : WW2 database Japan bombings

## **Movies:**

*Go For Broke!* (2010) Japanese-American 442nd Regiment that fought in Europe while their families were locked up in camps.

*Going For Broke* (2006) A documentary film on the 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

*The First Generation, the long-lost documentary about the Issei pioneers of the Sacramento River Delta*

*Sugihara - Conspiracy of Kindness (2005)* a documentary film about Chiune Sugihara, a Japanese diplomat stationed in Lithuania who risked his life to save over 6,000 Jews from the ensuing Holocaust by issuing exit visas without authorization.

## **Museum**

**Japanese American Museum** 535 N. 5th Street San Jose, CA 95112  
<http://www.jamsj.org/>

## **The Virtual Museum of San Francisco**

<http://www.sfmuseum.org/1906/ww2.html> : Chronology of San Francisco of World War II events