MYER PLEASSED BY ARMY PLAN

Expressing his gratification over the War Department's decision to recruit a combat team from the Nisei, Dillon S. Myer, national WRA head, sent the following message to Topaz:

"I find deep satisfaction in the announcement by Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson that a combat team composed of American citizens of Japanese ancestry is to be recruited by the United States Army for active service in a theater of war. This announcement makes January 28, 1943, the most significant date of the last 10 months for persons of Japanese ancestry in the United States.

"Many have told me in conversations and letters of their desire for active service in the armed forces of this country. For many months I have been looking forward with them to the time when their desire might be realized.

"All facilities of the WRA, both at the relocation centers and in Washington, will immediately be placed at the disposal of the War Department to speed the formation of the combat team announced by Mr. Stimson."

SIX RESIDENTS GIVE TO JACL NATIONAL FUND

Contributions to the National JACL fund from 6 Topaz residents were acknowledged this week by Hito Okada, treasurer, of Salt Lake City.

The contributors were: Y. Sakai, $25; D.T. Uchida, $25; C. Sunakawa, $5; Kay Hiroo, $5; Nobumitsu Takahashi, $2.50; and James Odagiri, $1.

WAR DEPARTMENT PLANS TO ORGANIZE JAPANESE AMERICAN COMBAT TEAM

WASHINGTON, D.C., Jan. 29—At a press conference in his office yesterday morning, Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson issued the following press release:

"The War Department announced today that plans have been completed for the admission of a substantial number of American citizens of Japanese ancestry to the Army of the United States.

"This action was taken following study by the War Department of many earnest requests by loyal American citizens of Japanese extraction for the organization of a special unit of the Army in which they could have their share in the fight against the nation's enemies."

"The progress of the unit authorized by Secretary Stimson will be voluntary induction, the War Department announced. Facilities for this will be nation-wide, including the Hawaiian Islands and the War Relocation centers in this country. No individual will be inducted if doubt exists as to his loyalty upon induction.

"The nisei will begin training as a combat team for service in an active theater. This combat team will include the customary elements of infantry, artillery, engineer and medical personnel. No effort will be spared in developing it into an efficient, well-rounded, hard-hitting unit.

"The new unit will be trained separately from the battalion of Americans of Japanese extraction—originally a Hawaiian National Guard organization—which is already a component of the Army."

The War Department's action, it was announced, is part of a larger program which will enable all loyal American citizens of Japanese ancestry to make their proper contribution toward winning the war through employment in war production as well as military service.

NISEI SOLDIERS VISITING CITY

Nisei soldiers now visiting this City include Private First Class Fred Nonoya, Camp Walters, Texas, visiting his family; and Private First Class Yoshio Tomino, Kentucky, here to see his cousin.