

Department of Defense 2020 Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month Poster

Poster Description: The Department of Defense Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month posters are the fourth in a series of posters commemorating the 75th Anniversary of World War II. Each commemoration poster or poster set highlights the significant contributions of special observance groups towards achieving total victory in this watershed event. Each poster is reminiscent of the colors and styles found in the 1940's Recruitment and Victory posters from the World War II era.

The Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month poster consists of three versions, each of which is identical except for the individual depicted as the subject of the poster and the background support image. Each poster has an aged, buff-colored border.

At the top left corner of each poster and partly lying on the top buff border is the Department of Defense 75th Anniversary Commemoration seal. The seal is multi-colored with the center consisting of a portion of the American flag. Superimposed over the flag is a dark blue letter capital "V" outlined in gold. Across the letter V is a blue banner with the word "REMEMBER" in capitalized letters and gold font. The center of the seal is surrounded by a narrow white ring and then a wide red ring containing 12 white stars. Surrounding the wide red ring is a wide dark blue ring. Superimposed on the top of the blue ring are the words, THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA in capitalized letters and gold font. Superimposed on the bottom of the ring are the words, WORLD WAR II 75TH COMMEMORATION in capitalized letters and gold font. Outside the wide blue ring are 4 smaller consecutive rings of white and blue.

Right justified at the top right corner of each poster and situated upon the buff-colored border in small black capitalized text is the month's title, ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH.

Version 1, depicts the image of a male, American soldier of Filipino descent with black hair standing on the left side of the poster. He is smiling and facing the camera at a slight left oblique with his hands on his hips. He is wearing an olive green uniform shirt, a white t-shirt, an olive green belt with black buckle, and green trousers. The soldier is Domingo Espinas Los Baños, Jr., one of the 50 "Hawaii boys," assigned to the U.S. Army's 1st Filipino Infantry Regiment. Behind Los Baños, and forming 4/5th of the poster background, is a dark gray, white-washed picture. Brush strokes from a paint brush are visible upon the picture. The picture is of the "Hawaii boys" from World War II, and depicts 8 members of the Hawaiian boys facing the camera. Five of them are standing, with another three sitting in the foreground.

Version 2, depicts the image of a female, American soldier of Japanese descent standing on the left side of the poster. Her long black hair is pinned up, behind her head. She is smiling and facing the camera at a slight right oblique with her hands in the pockets of her jacket. She is wearing a dark olive green jacket, white collared blouse, and an olive green skirt. The soldier is Corporal Terry Toyome Nakanishi, of the U.S. Women's Army Corps, Military Intelligence

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Service. Behind Corporal Nakanishi, and forming 4/5th of the poster background, is a dark gray, white-washed picture. Brush strokes from a paint brush are visible upon the picture. The picture is of five of the women from Corporal Nakanishi's unit standing in two rows in front of a one-story wooden barracks. The women are in uniform and wearing their service caps. Corporal Nakanishi is standing in the front row just to the left of her main image's crooked left elbow.

Version 3, depicts the image of a male, American sailor of Samoan descent standing on the left side of the poster. He is standing at attention and facing the camera at a slight right oblique. The sailor is Officers Cook Third Class Forsia, the first Samoan to be decorated in World War II after being wounded when a Japanese submarine shelled Samoa on 11 January 1942. Forsia is wearing the dress blue uniform of the Samoan Naval Fita-Fita Guard. He wears a red cap, a white skivvy shirt, a red sash, and a dark blue lava lava (a Samoan kilt) with red chevrons. He wears a gold-colored watch on his left wrist. The four red stripes sewn horizontally on the bottom of the lava lava kilt denote his rank. Above the top stripe is his rank insignia which depicts a white eagle facing to the right. Immediately beneath the eagle is a capital "C" in white text. Beneath the "C" is a red chevron pointing downward. Behind Forsia, and forming 4/5th of the poster background, is a dark gray, white washed picture. Brush strokes from a paint brush are visible upon the picture. The picture is of the Fita-Fita Guard standing in a three-row formation in front of a two-story masonry building at Naval Station, Samoa in March 1943. Two officers stand in formation in front of the sailors. The officer on the left wears a service overseas cap. The officer on the right wears a tropical service pith helmet.

To the right of the main individual on each poster (Los Baños, Nakanishi, or Forsia) is the phrase in large white text, "We Answered the Call!"

Across the bottom 1/5th of each poster is a broad red footer. Imposed on the footer in white capitalized text is the observance theme spread across two lines. The first line reads, "HONORING THE PAST," the second line reads, SECURING THE FUTURE!"

At the bottom right corner and situated upon the buff-colored border are the words "DEOMI's World War II Series" in small black text.