

United States Senate

June 30, 2016

The Honorable Megan Brennan
Postmaster General
United States Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza
Washington, DC 20260

Dear Postmaster General Megan Brennan,

I am writing to strongly encourage you to support the issuance of a United States commemorative postage stamp to provide timely and deserved recognition for the Nisei veterans – a group of Japanese Americans who served admirably in the U.S. Army during World War II.

Next year will mark the 75th year since Americans of Japanese descent were first interned on U.S. soil during World War II. However, it also marks the 75th year since the Nisei – second-generation Japanese Americans – entered U.S. military service to support our nation in the fight against Axis powers. All the more inspiring, the Nisei used their invaluable abilities and remarkable tenacity on the battlefield while facing significant challenges at home.

During World War II, Japanese Americans in Alaska and the continental United States were forcibly removed from their homes and sent to internment camps. During the midst of these unjust and trying circumstances, over 30,000 majority Nisei volunteered to serve in the U.S. military. These veterans served in critical roles in both the Pacific and European Theaters, primarily serving in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, 100th Infantry Battalion and the Military Intelligence Service (MIS).

As a representative of the State of Alaska, I share a lasting respect and admiration for the contributions of Nisei veterans, and recognize the many Nisei who employed their personal knowledge of language and culture to support U.S. military operations in Alaska and throughout the Pacific Theater. Incredibly, these men fought and died for our nation while their families were interned in camps across the United States. I believe that these Japanese-American veterans deserve additional recognition for their remarkable service to our nation.

It will soon be three-quarters of a century since the Nisei first served our nation. Commemorating their efforts with a stamp would be a fitting tribute to their courage, loyalty, and undying patriotism to the United States. This stamp would also serve as a constant reminder of the importance of civil liberties, and the depth of character that led these individuals to offer themselves on behalf of their country in tumultuous times.

Thank you for considering this request, and I ask that you consider it consistent with the law and the policies and procedures of your agency. I appreciate your consideration and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Dan Sullivan
U.S. Senator