

QUONSET HUT PETITION SIGNERS

Preserve WWII Quonset Hut Where Military Men of African Descent Lived in Segregated Housing at Pearl

BY: Deloris Guttman

TARGET: University of Hawaii Tropical Agriculture Department & Human Resources Urban Garden Center



Photo of the Quonset hut

There is only one Quonset hut facility standing, and it is the footprint of segregated housing for military men of African descent in Hawaii supporting the Naval Supply Center during WWII. There were thousands of Black men in the islands after the bombing of Pearl Harbor. They had separate USO clubs for recreation. Even in the downtown Honolulu red district, black and white men stood in separate lines to enter the houses of prostitution, or clubs of entertainment. This history is well documented and archived.

WE SIGNED: PRESERVE WWII QUONSET HUT WHERE MILITARY MEN OF AFRICAN DESCENT LIVED IN SEGREGATED HOUSING AT PEARL CITY, HAWAII

Arthur Brodas, NC

Delia Hanawalt, CA

Alice Tucker, HI

Edward Young, HI

Maurice Blackwell, HI

RICKY SLOAN, TN

Adrienne Horton, HI - We should have more information about this subject shared in local schools

Prince Neal, DC

Duane Vachon, CA

Jackie Ford, HI - Grandpa had a Quonset hut on his homestead property in Nanakuli back in the 50s where we stayed almost every weekend...just kerosene oil lamps, kerosene stove, running water and a outhouse since no bathroom in the hut...what cherished moments...

Henry Baker, HI

Barbara Allison-Simpson, HI - It is very important for African American people to know and understand their history so that it will not keep continuing to cause pain even today.

Nola Buffins, HI

Kathryn Takara, HI

by Kathryn Waddell Takara, PhD The urgency to recover the history of blacks in Hawai'i is becoming more apparent with each passing day. Since the election of Barack Obama, the first admitted African American President of the United States, more local and national attention is being focused on Hawai'i black history and the experiences and identity issues of blacks in Hawai'i where Obama passed a formative time of his youth. The ideas and personal philosophy of Barack Obama were undoubtedly influenced by his socialization and education in the Hawaiian Islands. Certainly his democratic approach to politics and his beliefs in diversity, unity, and community (ohana) were in part formulated by his multi-racial family and his life in a diverse and sometimes challenging community with few black role models. Kathryn Waddell Takara, PhD is a scholar/writer who understands the new historicism and the necessity of teaching and publishing African American history in Hawai'i.

For too long, the media and education system have ignored, controlled and/or marginalized blacks in local history, and thus images and perceptions of blacks have been controlled or omitted in the name of preserving the dominant American status, culture, and attitudes. Historically, identity and status in America, Hawai'i, and the world have been based on the privilege of skin color and wealth since the 1600's. Fortunately, at the beginning of the 21st Century, we have reached a new plateau. Now we have an emerging New People of mixed races and cultures, a growing population of young people,

Larry Seth Steinberg, HI

Rose Angel, SW

Mark Hayes, HI

Miguel and Carla Alexander, MO - Preserving History is important!

Theo Alexander, HI

Saundy Bratton, HI

Deborah Quarles, HI - My father Curtis Childress served here

Gayvial James, HI

Halemia Jones, HI

Corey Brideau, NB

Liana Rois, MB

Helen Compton, MD

April C Garner, DC

Ronnie Williams, GA

Keasha Floyd, VA

Dyotha Sweat, DC

Jasmine Scott, VA

Natalue Day, NC - My boyfriend's African-American father was sequestered at night in Manana during WWII. That was to "protect" the black servicemen.

Dennis Nakano, HI

Standar Hammonds, HI

Janice Wheeler, MD

Mark Valencia, HI

Keahi Renaud, HI

Sylvia Pope-Young, HI

Seibert Murphy, HI - The rarity of these WWII Quonset huts makes them important, the historical significance at that particular time in US military history and to military men of African descent makes them priceless. Let's do everything to preserve and honor the memory of those heroes.

Charles Lawrence, HI

Dennis Brooks, HI

Senator Will Espero, HI

Lyntillus Boyd, HI

Elizabeth Kennedy, NY

Robin Krawitz, DE

Arnetta Lawrence, HI

Jesus Puerto, HI

Zondra Rawlinson, VA