

World War II Era (1933-1950)

The U.S. Army looks inwards as the world enters war. Tremendous pre-war mobilization effort expands and develops military bases for thousands of men processing through San Francisco on their way to the Pacific Theater.

1933 - Alcatraz Federal Penitentiary

Army closes its military prison; Alcatraz Island transfers to Federal Bureau of Prisons.

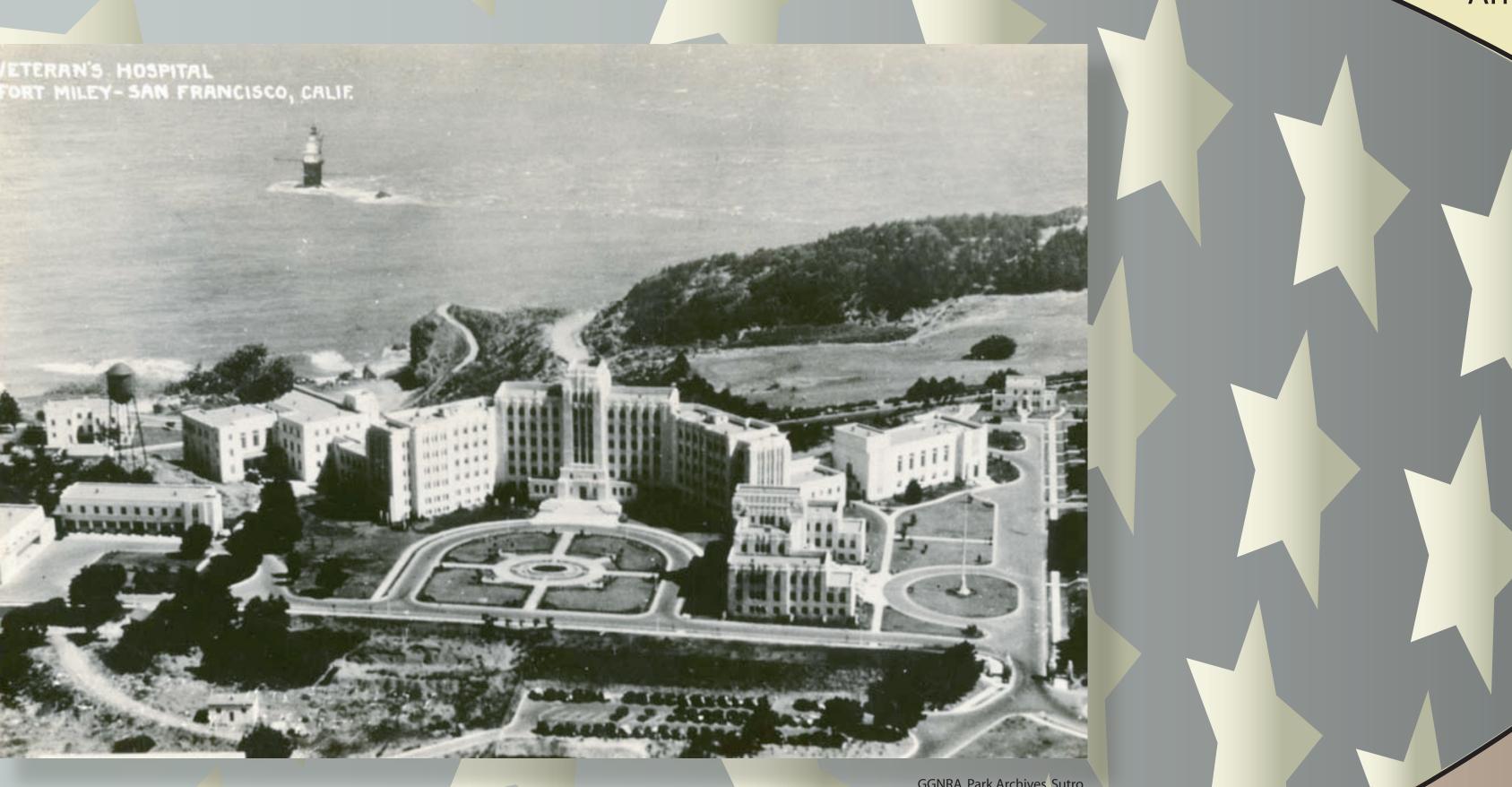
> 1934 - Veteran's Hospital built at Fort Miley All but one military building is demolished to

> > allow construction of the hospital.

1936 - Crissy Field is restricted to light aircraft

1938 - Battery Davis and Battery **Townsley constructed**

These new batteries are high security defenses, capable of shooting a 2,100 pound, armor-piercing projectile 25 miles out to sea. These and other WWI batteries are covered by dozens of feet of concrete and earth to protect them from air and naval attack.



1939-1945 - World War II

1940 - Fort Cronkhite constructed

As coastal defenses expand, an additional post is created to accommodate new troops. Quick construction and standardized design used at this fort is the best example of a Mobilization Post.

1941-1942 - Military Intelligence Service Language School

Nisei (second generation Japanese-American) soldiers are trained to serve as military linguists and translators for the Pacific Theater. Only one class graduates from the Presidio school. The school moves to Minnesota in 1942 due to the relocation order for all Japanese immigrants and Japanese-Americans.



1941-1944 - San Francisco Port of Embarkation (SFPE) at Fort Mason

During 45 months of war, 1,647,174 passengers and 23,589,472 measured tons of materiel moved though SFPE to the Pacific (two-thirds of all troops sent into the Pacific). The SFPE also administered ports in Los Angeles, Portland, and Seattle.



Law, thousands of women enlist.



Credit: U.S. Signal Corps. Courtesy of GGNRA, Park Archives, GOGA-1766

Soldiers Leaving for the Pacific Theater



Credit: U.S. Army, GG NRA, Park Archives James A. Sullivan SFPE Collection, GOGA 32475 Private Joe Fleming, New York City, Catching up on his book work as he awaits

Army moves its Coast Artillery School from Fort Monroe, Virginia to Fort Winfield Scott.

1946 - U.S. Army Coast Artillery School

_1950 - Coast Artillery deactivated

Coast Artillery system becomes obsolete due to weapons technology and military operations developments.