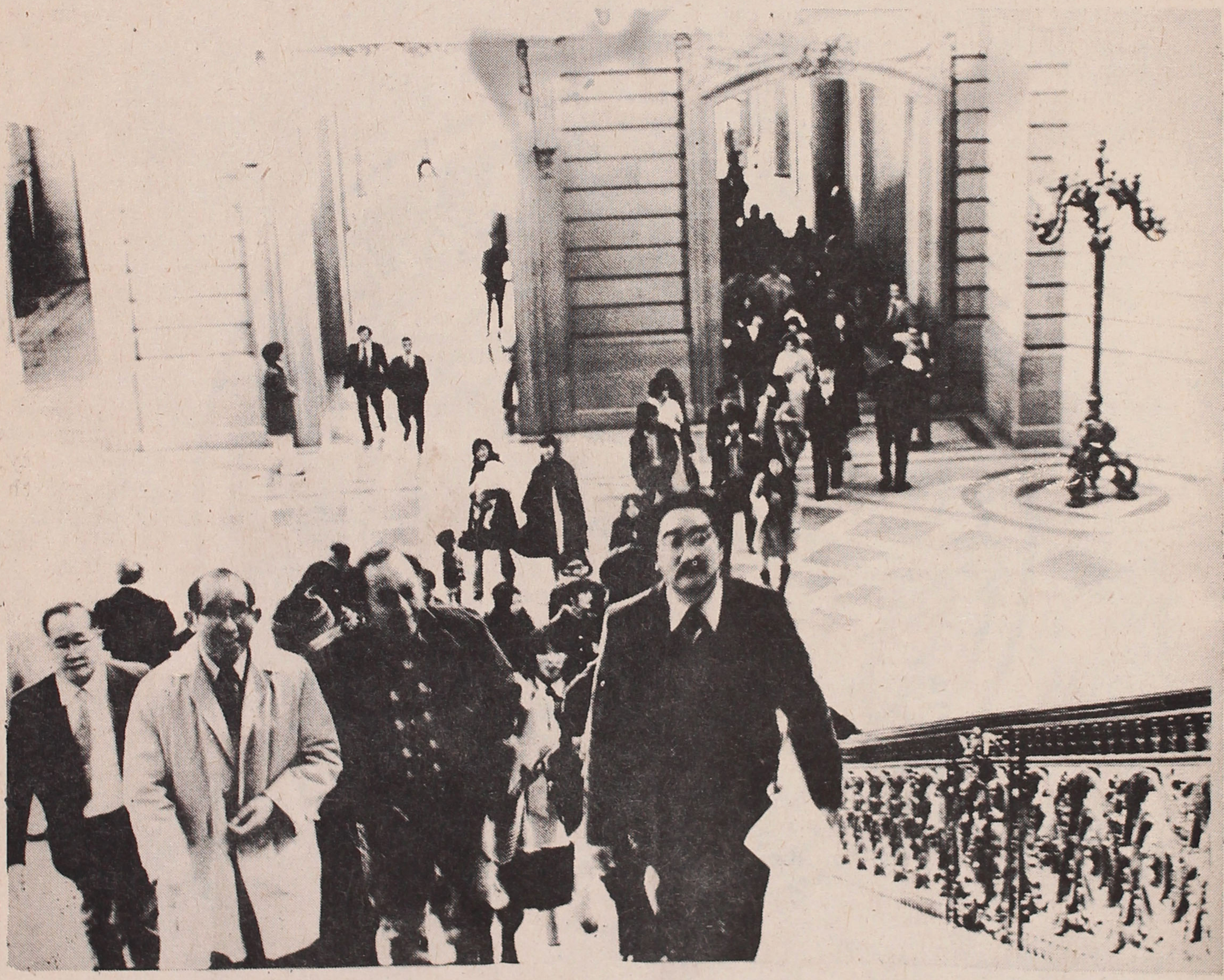
25 cents

ONE YEAR OF STRUGGLE

"United, Together,
We'll Never Be Defeated!"

WHAT IS CANE?

COMMITTEE AGAINST NIHONMACHI EVICTION



We began in February 1973 as a group of residents and small merchants with one basic predicament in common--- eviction from our homes and places of business. Today, we are an organization of more than 200 members trying to preserve the character and spirit of Nihonmachi.

Our purpose in coming together was to aid those residents and small businesses being evicted as a result of the commercial/tourist schemes of the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency and big business interests from outside Nihonmachi. We have since then expanded into other areas of the struggle in an effort to improve the quality of life within the Japanese community.

Our two principles of unity are:
1) stop the destruction and dispersal of the Japanese community and preserve Nihon-

machi as a residential and small business community, and 2)uphold the rights of residents and small businesses.

CANE is an all volunteer organization. Our membership consists of a cross section of four generations of Japanese Americans as well as persons of other races united behind our principles. We are common working people, merchants, young people, senior citizens, and families. We are all working together to save the community from destruction and dispersal.

The name CANE was picked because our Japanese community is getting smaller and smaller. Unless a group such as ours can help to preserve and expand what is left, San Francisco will no longer have a Japanese community. Nihonmachi will simply become a tourist trap and a commercial center promoting large corporations from Japan.

NIHONMACHI HISTORY

Nihonmachi was settled as a Japanese community in the early part of this century following the 1906 earthquake. At one time, our community stretched for 20 square blocks and was the home of 95% of San Francisco's Japanese population.

All community activities--- social, political, religious, economic--- took place within Nihonmachi. Residents and small businesses existed in an interdependent relationship. Nihonmachi was more than just a place to live or work or do business. It was a place where people had mutual trust, where cultural distinctions were not barriers.

Nihonmachi suffered a crippling blow during World War II. The evacuation of persons of Japanese ancestry to inland "relocation camps" by the U.S. government began the decline and destruction of the once lively and colorful Japanese community. During this time, loss of property and possessions by Issei and Nisei totaled approximately $400 million nationwide.

After the war, only half the original Japanese population of Nihonmachi returned to the community; others scattered and resettled in other places.

Within a decade of returning from the "relocation camps", Japanese American families and businesses in Nihonmachi were beset with a second mass evacuation, this time at the hands of the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency. During the next two decades, residents and merchants were systematically driven out of Nihonmachi only to be replaced by expensive apartment complexes and tourist attractions.

In late 1972, RDA, working hand in hand with big business interests,, began the final phase in the transformation of Nihonmachi into a tourist showcase. Another series of eviction notices were served to many of the area's remaining families and small merchants.

CANE'S EMERGENCE

From the growing resentment against the unjustified manipulation by RDA, CANE formed in early 1973 to protect the interests of our community and the rights of residents and small businesses.

At the onset, CANE was at the crossroads, faced with two alternatives. One road said: "We can never stop the Redevelopment Agency. It's too late now." This road was plagued with doubts and pessimism. It could not see beyond the mountain of RDA. It could not feel the strength of a unified and aroused Japanese community, but only the bureaucratic power of RDA.

Blinded and overwhelmed by the immediate situation, this road did not want to fight RDA's plan to destroy our community. Instead it sought ways to compromise with RDA, ways to gain some compensation for some people but never to challenge the basis of RDA's plans.

The second path refused to compromise. "This is our community, our future is at stake and we will not give up so easily." This path was filled with courage and determination.

"We must never allow RDA to destroy

GENERAL INFORMATION

CANE Address:
1858 Sutter St., San Francisco Ca.
94115

CANE Office Hours:
3 p.m. to 8 p.m. weekdays
10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays
Closed Sundays

Phone Number:
921-8841

the Japanese community," is the direction of this second road.

The people in CANE united around the second path to struggle and save the Japanese community and uphold the fundamental rights of residents and small businesses. CANE began to unite the community to halt redevelopment's destruction.

In one year of existence, CANE has undertaken many activities. We have met several times with RDA representatives to insure that the legal and moral rights of residents were respected.

In the summer of 1973 our meetings with the Japanese American Religious Federation (JARF) resulted in CANE fully supporting this federally funded housing project and making every effort to relocate residents on the project site so as not to jeopardize its construction. This is work that is the legal responsibility of RDA, but the agency had neglected to meet its obligations.

In June of 1973, CANE appeared before the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights on behalf of the residents of Nihonmachi.

In July, CANE went to court to win an extension for some residents being served "unlawful detainer" notices by RDA with no justification.

In October, CANE was duly incorporated as an organization under the guidelines established by the state of California.

MOBILIZATION AGAINST KINTETSU

Toward the end of 1973, we mobilized community opposition to the destruction of low-cost housing in Nihonmachi for the proposed construction of an eight-story tourist hotel by Kintetsu Enterprises, a giant corporation based in Japan. We collected more than 2,800 signatures of persons supporting CANE, opposing the Kintetsu Hotel, and supporting the need for low-cost family housing on the hotel site.

Twice we have gone to City Hall to appeal permits issued to RDA and Kintetsu which would allow them to build the hotel. Both times, the Board of Permit Appeals has turned down our requests, choosing to align itself with RDA and Kintetsu. We were not surprised by these decisions, because we realize that the solution to our needs does not lie with politicians or bureaucrats but rather in our ability

CANE Officers

Spring 1973-Spring 1974

President---Guy Ono

Vice President---Hiko Shimamoto

Secretary---Nancy Ishida

Treasurer---Peggy Kanzawa

Advisor---Tokuo Miyao

Sgt.-at-arms---Charles Toyooka
Saichi Kawahara

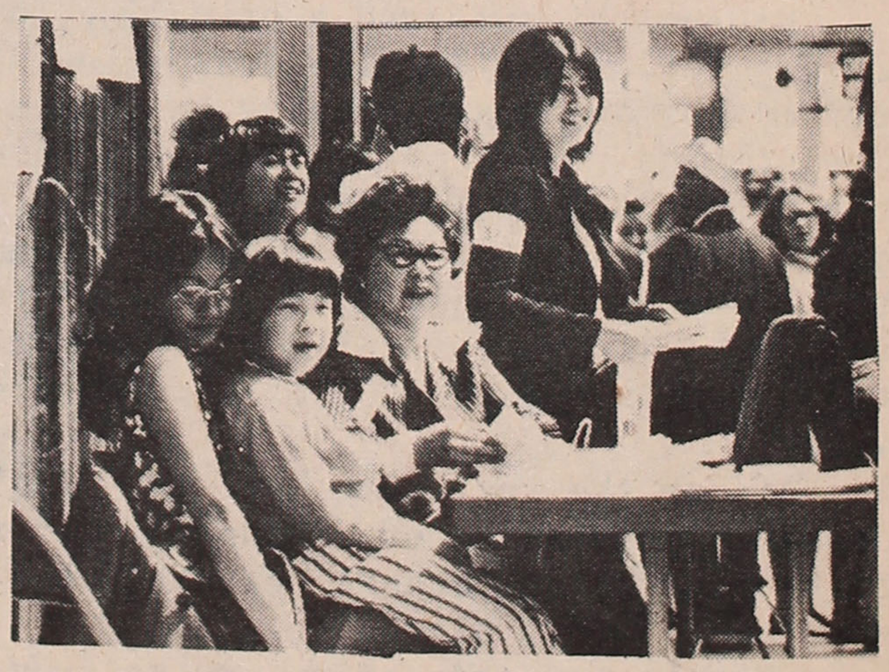
Committee Representatives to Coordinating Committee

Tenant Outreach---John Ota
Joyce Nakamura

Administration---rotating members

Publicity---George Iwao
Glenn Omatsu

Newsletter---Boku Kodama
Kim Geron



CANE members talk with fellow members of the Japanese community during "Community Day" festival in March 1973.

Some 200 members and supporters of CANE depart from City Hall after an appearance before the city's Board of Permit Appeals. The Board of Permit Appeals turned down CANE's request to overturn demolition permits issued to the Redevelopment Agency and site and building permits to Kintetsu Enterprises for the proposed construction of the Kintetsu Sunflower Hotel. Board of Permit Appeals members chose to align themselves with RDA and Kintetsu, against the people of Nihonmachi. CANE members left the hearing chanting "We Want Housing, Not Hotels" and "United, Together, We'll Never Be Defeated."

to mobilize mass support, community support.

Our campaign against the Kintetsu Hotel has gained us much publicity. But CANE is an organization that is broader than our campaign against tourism and Kintetsu. Basically, we actively support all that will benefit our community and improve the quality of life in Nihonmachi. And we oppose all that is detrimental to Nihonmachi and in violation of the basic rights of our people.

In the past year, we have actively supported the proposed JARF housing project because we believe that low-cost housing is a right of all people. We have also demanded that more low-cost housing be built within our community, and we have formed a committee to investigate obtaining funds from Washington, D.C.

We also presently are looking in to the possibility of forming a support committee to aid in the realization of the proposed Issei Memorial Community Center.

Most importantly, we have worked daily to uphold the legal and moral rights of

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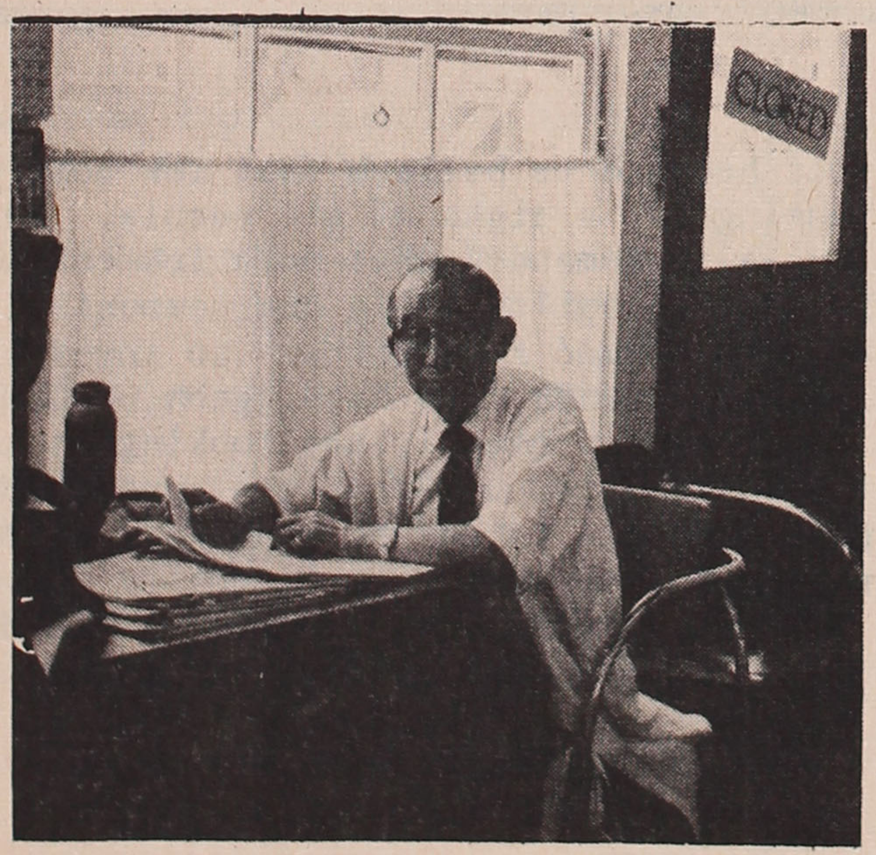
It is people that define a community

HIKO SHIMAMOTO
Nihonmachi Resident
CANE Vice-President

We are witnessing today a massive physical destruction of Nihonmachi. We have already witnessed a dispersal of many of the long time residents and small shops that once flourished in the streets of our community. It's not so much the buildings that are being torn down which is so bad, although many of them are historic landmarks to the Issei. It is the dispersal of so many people that is causing the destruction of Nihonmachi. And people, their rich history, their oppression, their heritage, and their integrity to fight are the common denominator that define a community.

CANE is a relatively new organization. We have just celebrated our first year of struggle. Many have said that it was too late--that Nihonmachi was too far into redevelopment. It is inconceivable to expect that any outside interest with power and money could disrupt an entire community and attempt to alter its character without any opposition. Or did they think that because we were Japanese Americans who at one time in our history had been forcefully evacuated from our homes into concentration camps, that we could just as easily be evacuated today?

It is important that the various segments of the community work together in order to achieve a solid force. We must show mass support in our demand for more low cost housing and our fight against invading tourism.



Roy Abbey, a barber in Nihonmachi since 1935, received a 90-day eviction notice from RDA in late 1972. His shop was on the site of the proposed Japanese American Religious Federation (JARF) housing project.

"It (the 90-day notice) was rather a shock to me," Mr. Abbey told the New Dawn newspaper in an interview. "I told one of the men at the Redevelopment Agency that this business is my bread and butter. Well, he merely told me, ' I'm sorry but that is your problem, not mine, and my business is to kick you out from here.' I was really surprised. I was disappointed really. I've been here so long and most of my business is in this neighborhood. You know, my clientele are from this neighborhood. And if I'm to be relocated to another location, I doubt very much if I could make a living."

With the help of CANE, Mr. Abbey was able to relocate into a vacated storefront across the street from his old shop and continue to serve Nihonmachi as a community barber.

March Dobashi, who has operated the Yamato Auto Garage in Nihonmachi since 1939, was threatened with eviction in late 1972. His garage was on the site of the proposed Japanese American Religious Federation (JARF) housing project. With the help of CANE, Mr. Doabashi was able to find a temporary "on-site" business location in Nihonmachi and thus continue his auto repair shop in the Japanese community. RDA had told Mr. Dobashi that it would not be able to find a location for his business because of zoning complications and had proposed to move him out of the area.

"Redevelopment is breaking up the Japanesetown, and I hate to see it go," Mr. Dobashi told the Hokubei Mainichi in 1973. "Nihonmachi shouldn't just be big stores with no people. Little shops should be left in the area. It looks more like a Nihonmachi if you have all types of businesses."

"Turn your backs on CANE... And face the crane!"

CLARENCE SPEAR
Weldon's Grocery Store

Every community needs an organization like CANE. There are many problems that come up in our community.

CANE can be the bridge for our community to communicate with the people or a group of people who can help us with our problems.

At this point in time, the one thing that CANE needs is the unity of the community. In the area of unity, we need the very important and strong support of my generation---Issei and Nisei.

Many of you are wondering why I pointed out the support of our first and second generation members. I'll tell you why...Any time our young people make a effort to change anything, they are then tagged as radicals. The efforts of CANE are far from radical. Throughout the past year year CANE has been a great help to all of us. Giving as much help as possible to the community. Believe me, the problems are here.

I ask each of you to keep these words in mind... Turn your backs on CANE...and face the CRANE.

Support CANE. Arigato gozaimasu

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residents and small business people in their dealings with RDA.

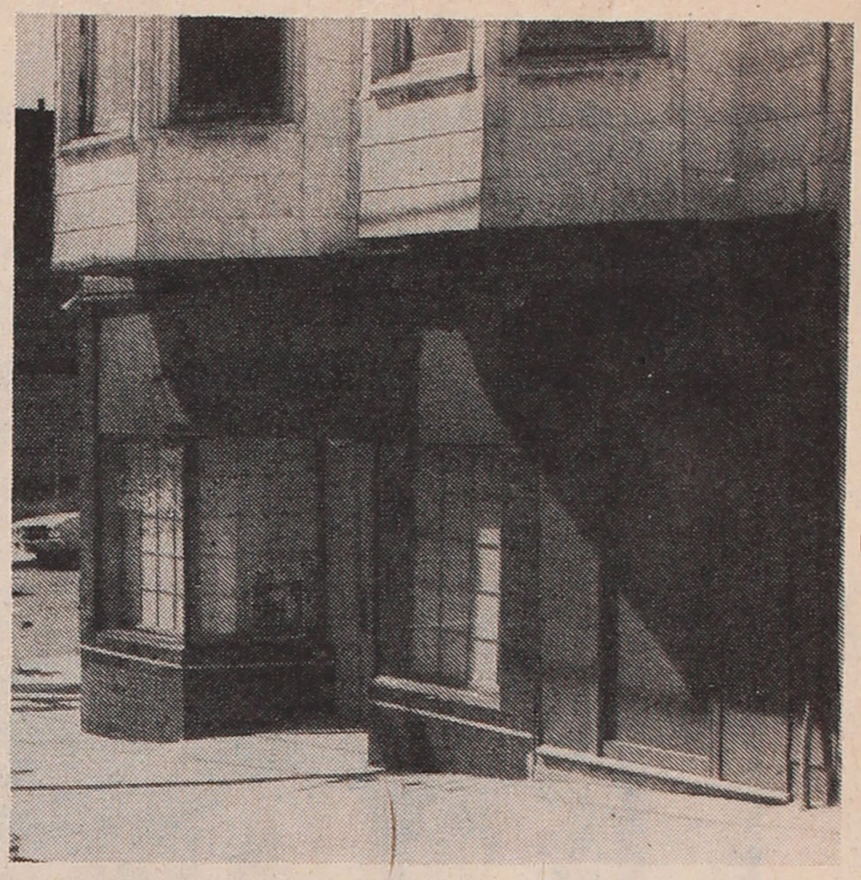
For example, last summer we helped to insure that several local businesses being evicted from the JARF project site would be able to remain in this community. While RDA was threatening to move these businesses into other parts of the city, we found temporary on-site storefronts ir the immediate area to allow them to remain in business in Nihonmachi.

A final important aspect of our work is our outreach activities. We have spoken before many church groups, schools, clubs and other community organizations about CANE. We have participated in many festivals and community events to inform people about our principles and practice and to ask for their participation and support.

CANE is growing rapidly and yet our number one concern remains getting more support --- mass support --- because our work in the community has only just begun . . . and there's a great deal to be done.

Now the time has come to stand up and claim what is rightfully ours --- the right to decent, low-cost housing, the right to live in a community of our own choice and making, the right to determine the destiny of our community.

We encourage everyone to join us in helping to preserve and expand Nihonmachi as a residential and small business community and improve the quality of life for all people.



Kintoki Restaurant was targeted for demolition in late 1972. RDA officials wanted to relocate the restaurant out of Nihonmachi into the Mission District. CANE fought to keep Kintoki within Nihonmachi under the principle of stopping the destruction and dispersal of the Japanese community and preserving Nihonmachi as a residential and small business community. CANE members found Kintoki an "on-site" storefront within the immediate area, something that RDA had been unwilling to do.

CANE members discuss vital community issues

CANE Opposes RDA's Destructive Policies

CANE is strongly opposed to the policies of the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency (RDA). We recognize that RDA is a public agency paid for by the people of San Francisco, but it actually serves the interests of big business and tourist projects at our expense.

The expansion of the Financial District, the multi-million dollar Yerba Buena Convention Center, BART, and the rapid replacement of single family units by high-rise and high-cost apartments are all part of the plans of large corporate interests to make San Francisco the "Wall Street of the West."

RDA is a very important force in this scheme. It is the public agency whose duty is to remove residents and tear down existing structures so that potential developers can rebuild what is most profitable to them.

By its governmental power of "eminent domain," RDA is able to force people to sell their land and get out of their own communities. Then, through its legal guidelines, RDA is able to dictate what types of new development take place. Unfortunately, Nihonmachi is but one of many communities in San Francisco faced with this very same problem.

In Chinatown, land badly needed for housing was stolen from the community by RDA to build the Holiday Inn for tourists and businessmen in the Financial District. In the South of Market, residents are struggling with RDA to insure that housing will be provided in the community for the many people displaced for the proposed Yerba Buena Convention Center. All over the city there are struggles going on as communities of people are rising up against

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"We need low cost housing for families and Issei."

DR. KAZUE TOGASAKI
Nihonmachi Resident

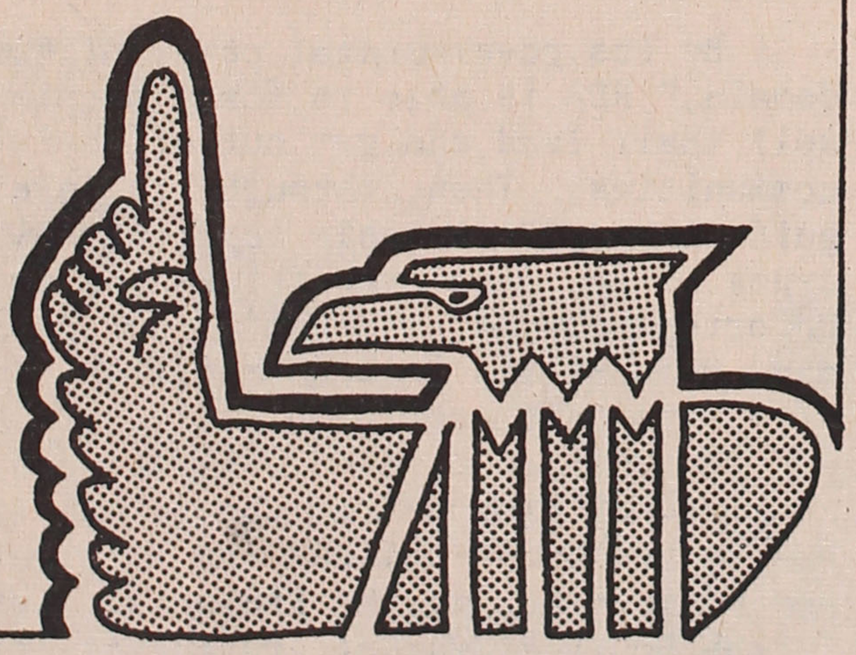
Except for the years in the relocation camps I have lived in Nihonmachi since 1912. I am deeply attached to this community and prefer it over any other part of the city. When Japanese first came to this country, we were segregated, but we built a strong viable residential community. Now that the location of our community makes it valuable, outsiders want to take away our community and force the residents out.

Redevelopment should mean rebuilding and improving a community for the people who live in that community, but that has not taken place in Nihonmachi. Families, the lifeblood of this community, have been evicted and had their housing torn down, but very few units large enough for families have been built so that they could return. Many individuals and couples, particularly the elderly, have also been evicted and now they find they cannot afford to move back to the new apartments that have replaced their former dwelling places.

Tourism and tourists disrupt the community. They come and go without adding anything to the community. They only take pictures and spend a little money. Corporations like Kintetsu do not feel any responsibilities to the community---it is not a family business. Let Kintetsu build a hotel where its executives live, if it thinks hotels are good for communities.

We already have the Miyako Hotel, and we do not need another tourist hotel, especially one in the heart of the residential section of the community. We do need low-cost housing, for both families and the elderly first generation Japanese Americans, for we want to have all the generations here-the original immigrants and their children and grandchildren. Only in this way can we preserve Nihonmachi as a Japanese American community, with its special way of life.

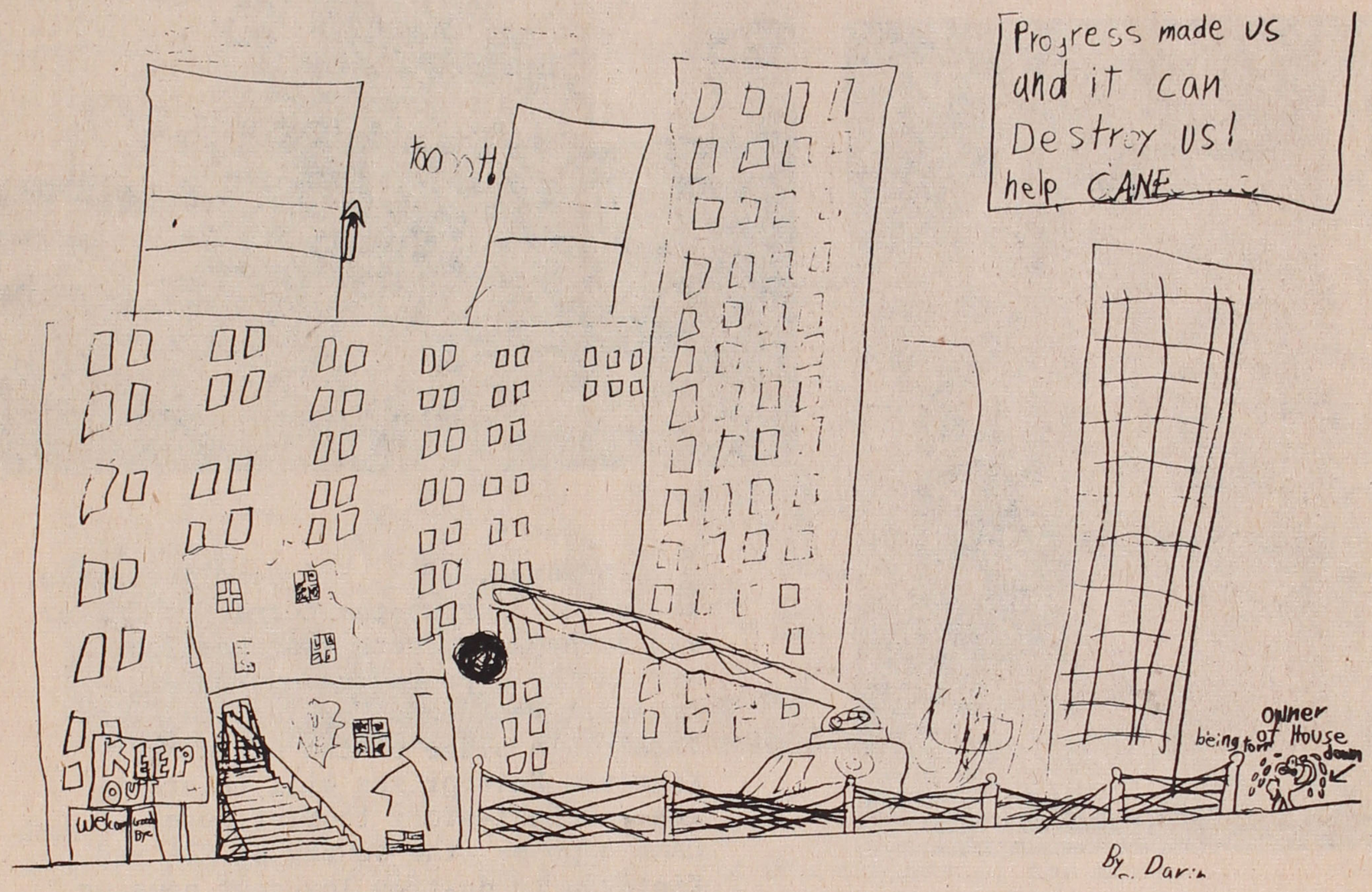
CANE SAYS:

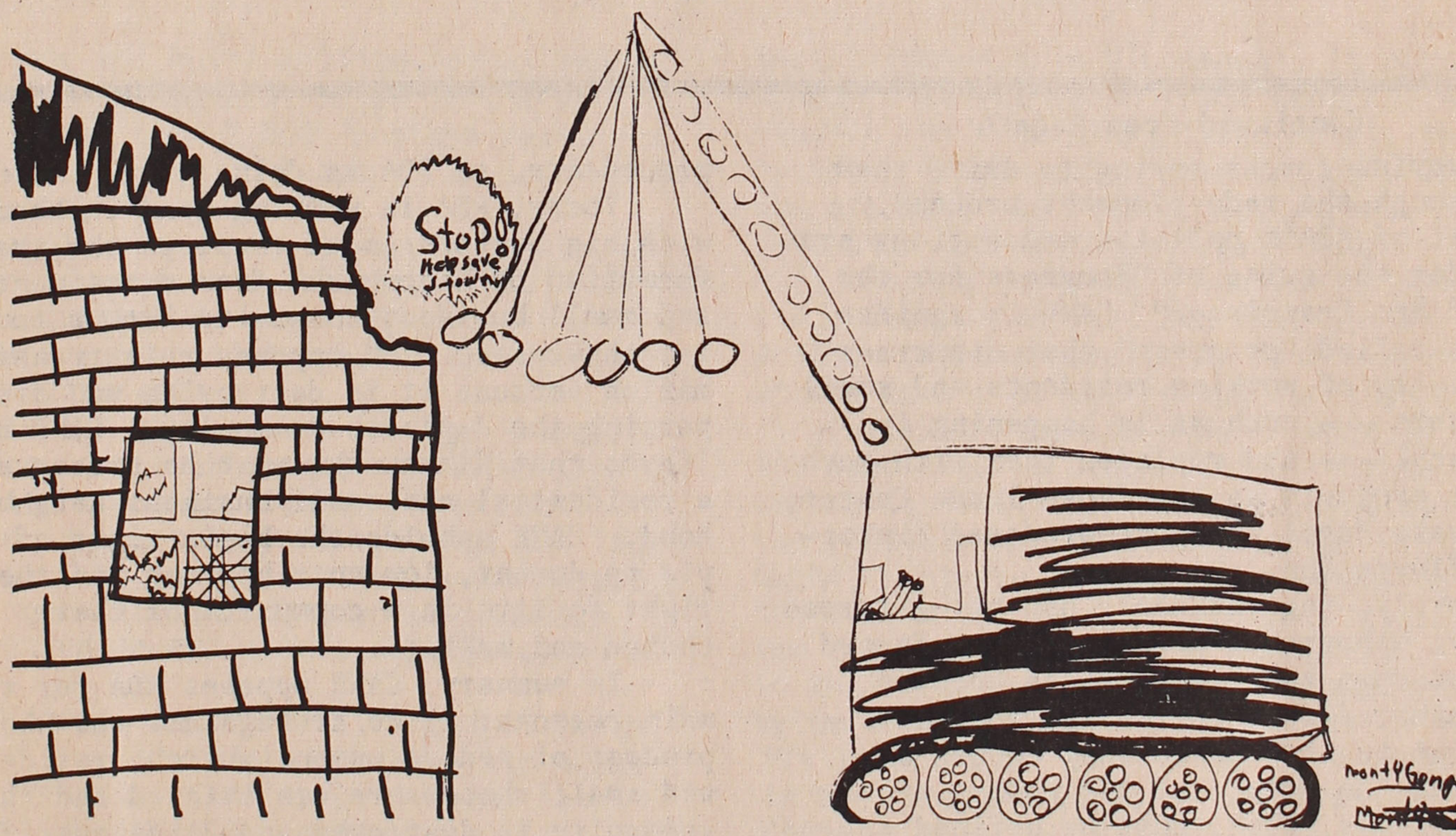


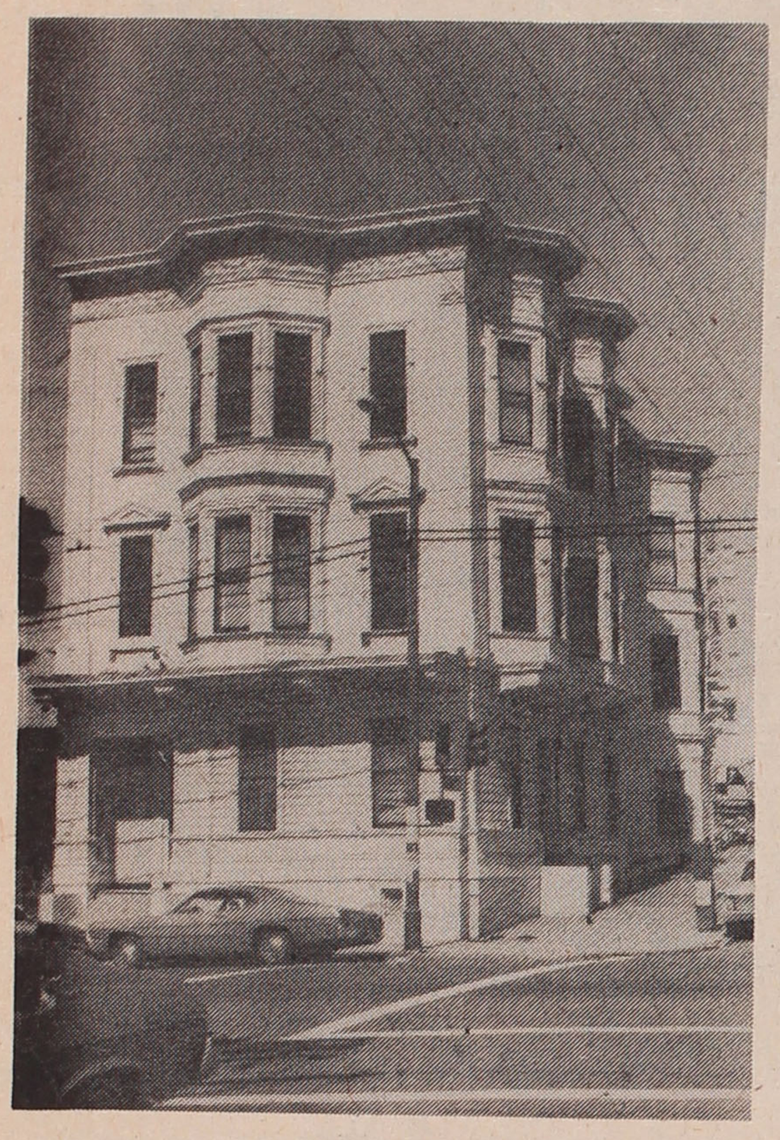
CANE'S PRINCIPLES

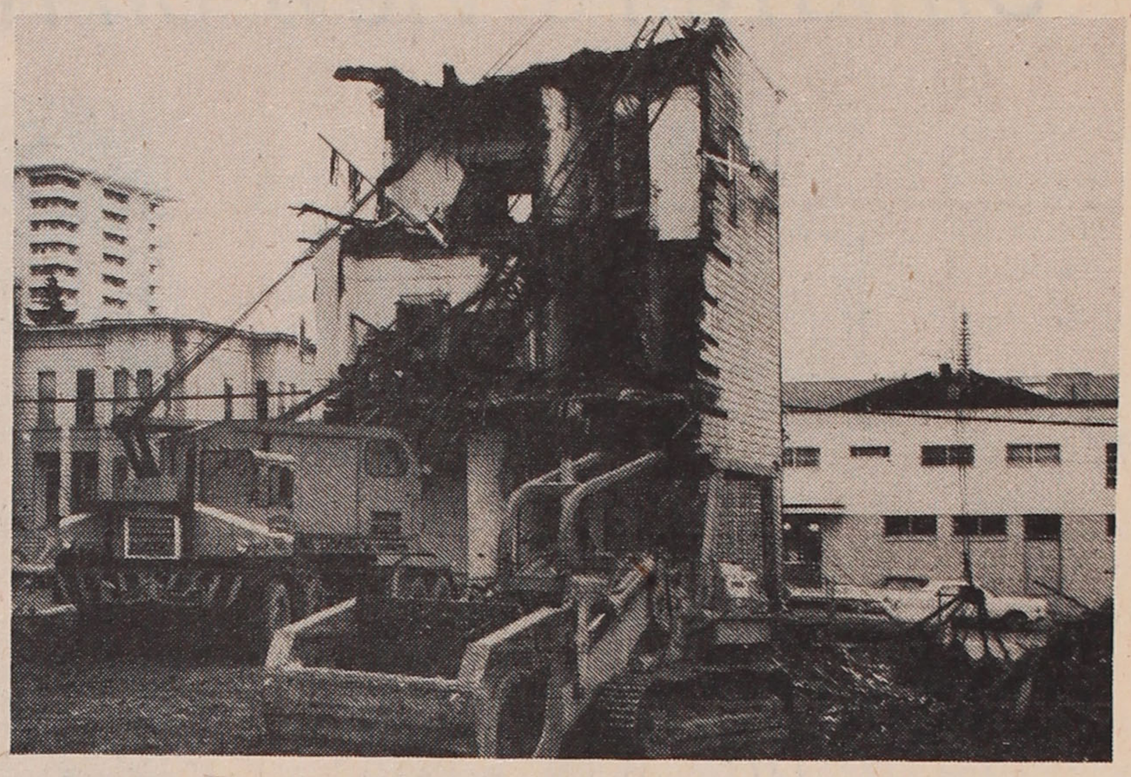
1. To stop the destruction and dispersal of the Japanese Community and to keep Nihonmachi a small business and residential area.
2. To uphold the rights of residents and small businesses.

Children's View on Redevelopment









In March, 1974, RDA demolished the above building at the corner of Sutter and Buchanan streets that had long served the Japanese community as a low-cost residence for families and Issei. In place of the building, Kintetsu Enterprises will be erecting an eight-story tourist hotel. CANE opposes the scheme of RDA and Kintetsu to destroy low-cost housing to transform Nihonmachi into a tourist trap.

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the powerful forces trying to drive them out through the redevelopment process.

All of RDA's policies and actions are put under the guise of "Progress for the City of San Francisco." CANE is against this so-called "progress" that disperses a community of working residents and small shopowners --- such as is happening in Nihonmachi --- and replaces them with such tourist projects as the Japan Trade Center, the Miyako Hotel, and the proposed Kintetsu Sunflower Inn.

Surely, the residents now being forced to leave Nihonmachi and shopowners forced to close down their businesses because they cannot afford to rebuild should have the right to live where they choose and determine the future of the community.

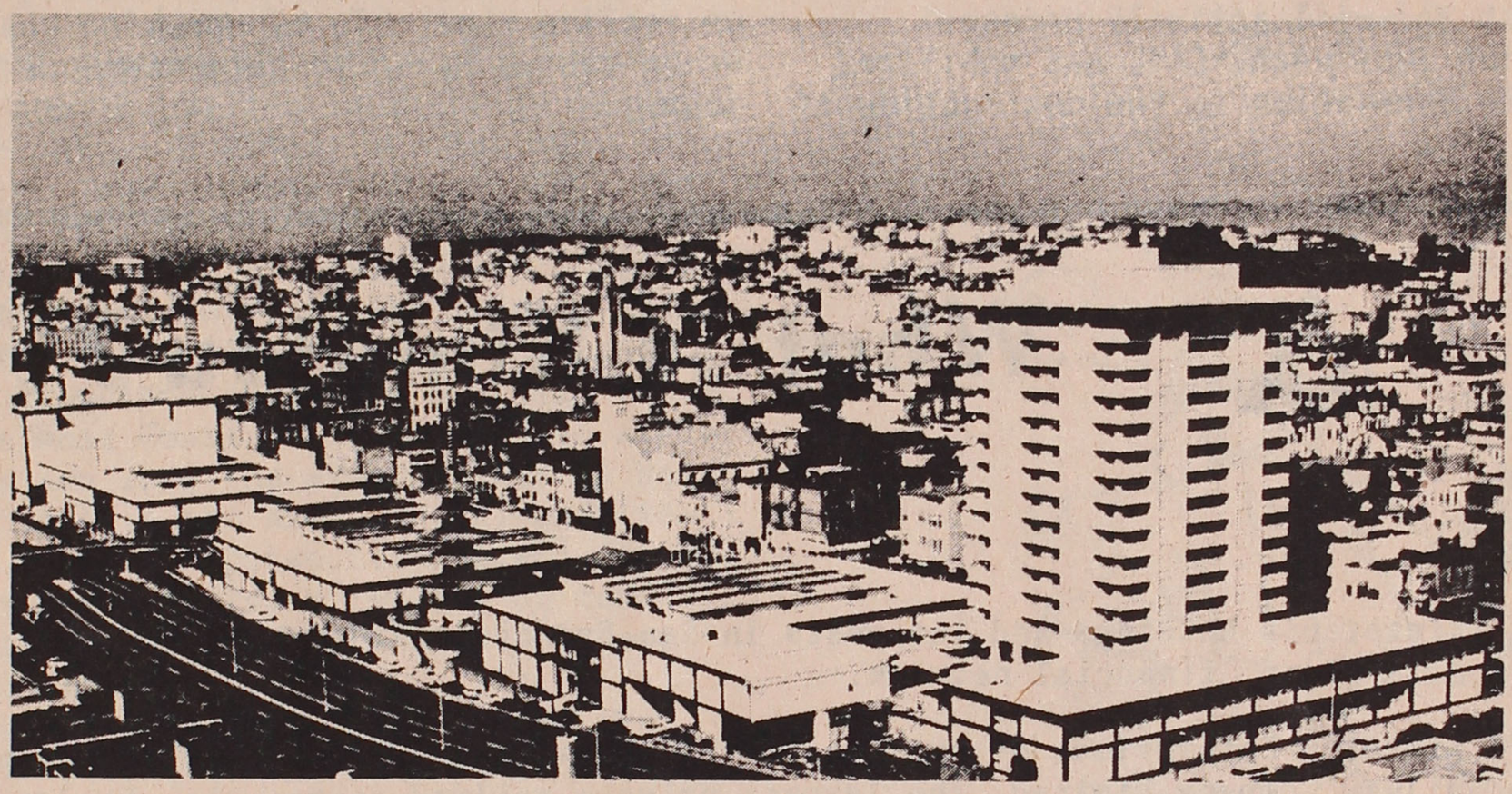
Progress, then, must be defined as improving the quality of life for the people and not by allowing the profit-making plans of big business interests to take precedence, as RDA is doing.

Today, RDA is working hand in hand with big businesses to complete the transformation of Nihonmachi from a residential and small business community into a tourist showcase. CANE opposes this transformation because it is destroying and dispersing the Japanese community. CANE believes that Nihonmachi must be preserved as a residential and small business neighborhood. CANE upholds the basic right of people to decent, low-cost housing and the right to live in a community of their choice and making.

In summary, CANE opposes RDA for two main reasons: 1) We are against the whole process of redevelopment whereby residents and small shopowners are evicted and the community is destroyed and 2) We must fight against the tourism in Nihonmachi which RDA, working hand in hand with corporate interests, is trying to force on our community.

STOP KINTETSU:

RDA's Partner in Destruction



Kintetsu owns one-half of the Japan Trade Center, including the adjoining Miyako Hotel. The trade center promotes tourism and corporate profits for the benefit of a few at the expense of the many.

Since the multi-million dollar redevlopment of Nihonmachi began in the mid-1950s, more than 2,000 Japanese residents have been forced to leave their long-standing community.

Family homes and low-cost housing have been destroyed, and essential small business services run out of Nihonmachi either by fixed zoning or the high cost of land and construction.

The RDA master plan for San Francisco has provided tourism and expensive single-unit apartment housing for Nihonmachi. RDA could not solely depend upon the local merchants to carry out this transformation of a community into a tourist showcase and turned toward giant, outside corporations.

Kintetsu Enterprises, based in Japan, specializes in tourism and had the necessary financial ability to develop large project sites in Nihonmachi.

Since coming to San Francisco in 1960, Kintetsu has emerged as the dominant financial interest in Nihonmachi. It owns one-half of the Japan Trade Center, including the adjoining Miyako Hotel, the building housing the Japanese Consulate, and operates the Suehiro Restaurant, Mikado Gift Shop and Kintetsu Travel Agency. It will soon be building a bowling alley at the corner of Webster and Post streets and another tourist hotel, the Sunflower Inn, at the corner of Sutter and Buchanan sts.

Overall, Kintetsu owns 25 percent of the land area in Nihonmachi with total investments of $15 million. In line with the redevelopment master plan for Nihonmachi, Kintetsu promotes the expansion of tourism in the interests of profits, not for the betterment of the community. Thus, in the first quarter of 1973 alone, Kintetsu recorded profits of $3 million from its investments in Nihonmachi, according to the Japanese business publication, Toyo Keizai.

RDA's plans for tourism and Kintetsu's concern for corporate profits are jointly

destroying our community. The scheming partnership of RDA and Kintetsu destroys homes and businesses and disperses our community. The scheming partnership is turning what was once the backbone of the Japanese community into a disgusting tourist attraction at the expense of the people of Nihonmachi. It is this scheme which CANE must and will actively oppose.

In the past year, CANE has mobilized community opposition to the destruction of low-cost housing at the corner of Sutter and Buchanan streets for the proposed construction of the Kintetsu Sunflower Inn. CANE opposes the destruction and dispersal of Nihonmachi that Kintetsu is promoting and and the overall transformation of our community into a tourist showcase. CANE will continue to fight against Kintetsu, for we realize that only by opposing what is wrong can we begin to determine our own future.

What is Kintetsu ?

Kintetsu's holdings and interests in San Francisco Nihonmachi are only a part of a giant, financial network.

Kintetsu Enterprises of America is the overseas subsidiary of Kinki Nippon Railway Company Limited, the largest private railway corporation in Japan.

Kinki was established in 1910 and at present is capitalized at 37,500 billion yen (approximately 140 million dollars), employing 13,000 workers as of March 1973. Kinki is tied into the Japanese "zaibatsu" (financial group) through Mitsubishi Bank, Sanwa Bank, Nippon Life Insurance Company (the largest life insurance company in Japan), which are its major stockholders.

Through 170 companies either as subsidiaries or related enterprises, Kinki reaches every corner of Japan, engaging in all phases of transportation, recreation and tourism.

Kinki controlled bus services cover almost all of Japan. Kinki owns the Nihon Kosoku Jidosha which makes buses and Mie Kotsu, a large bus company. Since 1965, Kinki has been tied into the Gray Line Sightseeing Company Associated Inc., the largest company of its kind in the U.S.

Kinki currently owns nine Miyako Hotels and is in the process of building four more. Kinki is also Japan's largest private land developer through Kinki Real Estate Company. Moreover, it owns eleven large department stores and 50 supermarkets.

Kintetsu World Express Company, part of the Nippon Kinki Tourist Company, has 170 branches in Japan with ten branches overseas.

Kinki is also involved in taxicabs, rent-a-car, trucking, hydrofoil, and ferry boat services, cable cars (to scale mountains), freeway construction, auto dealerships, air cargo, amusement parks, baseball field, baseball teams, museums, bowling alleys, and golf courses.

CANE Opposes Tourism

"We will not allow our community to be put on the same level as a car in the Datsun showroom"

CANE opposes tourism in Nihonmachi, and we oppose the two main forces bringing tourism into our community: the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency (RDA) and Kintetsu Enterprises.

The interest of Kintetsu and RDA in Nihonmachi is rooted in the overall redevelopment masterplan for San Francisco. As San Francisco becomes a business center for the West Coast, It will need to attract businessmen into the area. Plans to have conventions in the area have already resulted in the proposed Yerba Buena Center. Businessmen are also attracted by tourist attractions, such as Ghirardelli Square and the Cannary.

Kintetsu and RDA have decided that Nihonmachi is viewed by these forces as being ideal to exploit as a money-making, tourist-attracting showcase for Japanese big business. In this way, Nihonmachi is seen by both these powers as the base on which to build the tourist industry of San Francisco at the expense of the Japanese American community.

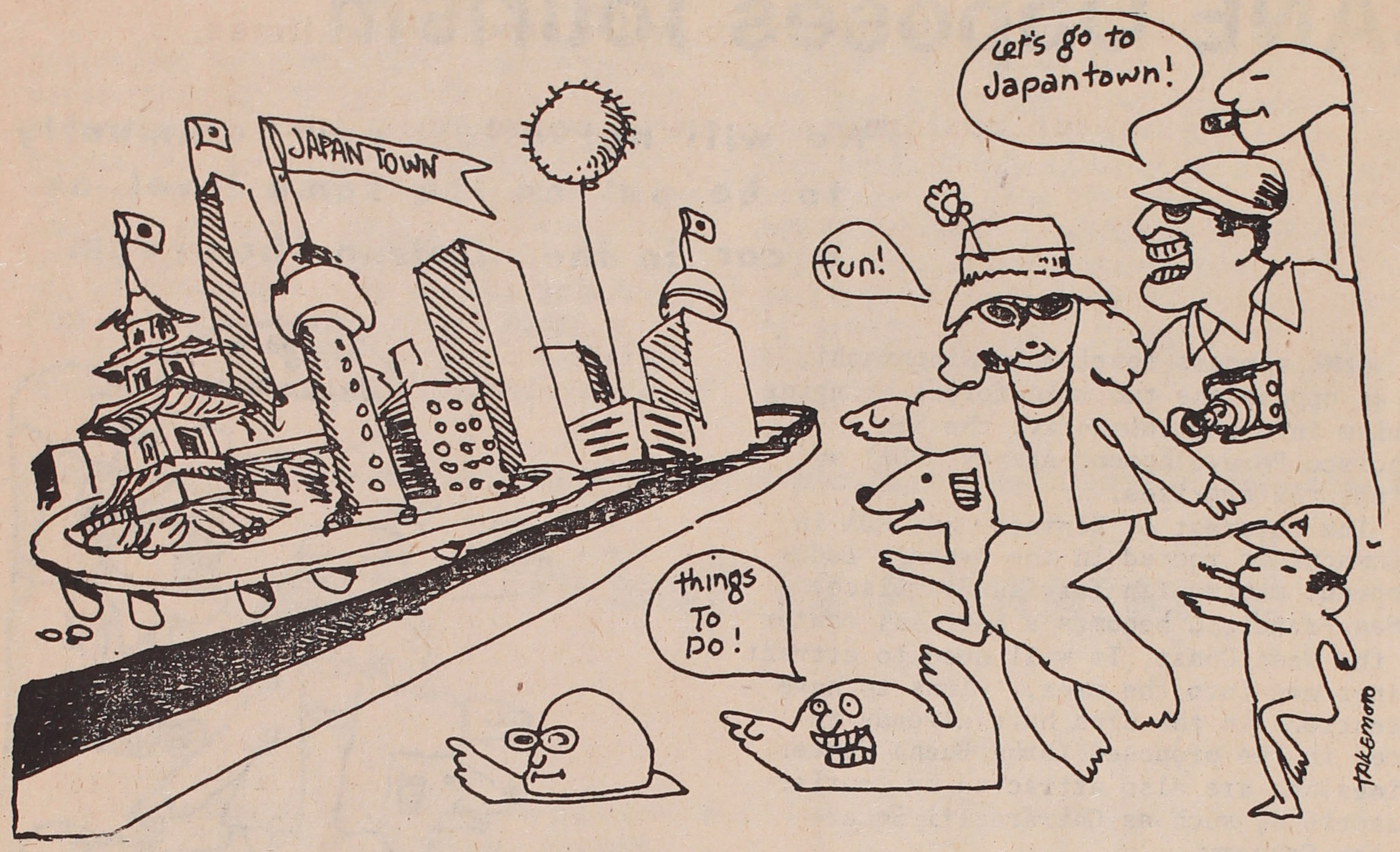
CANE sees this planned exploitation of Nihonmachi as intolerable. The development of tourism as the main industry in Nihonmachi will drive residents and small businessmen out of the area. It will mean the destruction of Nihonmachi as a residential and small business community, so that large corporations can harvest profits. Tourism does not need residents and small businesses, and residents and small businesses do not need tourism.

What residents do need are businesses that will serve their needs. In other words, a community needs small businesses like shoe repair shops, grocery stores, barber shops, hairdressers, dry cleaners, garages, hardware stores and other people-serving establishments. Since communities are interdependent, these types of businesses reciprocally need residents to provide a steady clientele that will be a consistent, stable source of income. Residents provide an economic stabilization

for the community's shopowners that tourists cannot provide.

In an area geared toward tourism there is no room for residents or the businesses that serve them. The property values in such areas are so high that most families cannot afford to pay the property taxes or rent a home. And since there will be few permanent residents left in a tourist-oriented area, the area's businesses will have to rely on tourists as a source of income. Tourists, however, generally patronize businesses like souvenir shops, bars, expensive restaurants, and display showrooms (i.e. the showrooms for the various Japanese corporations in the Japan Trade Center). Thus, it is likely that many of the small businesses now in Nihonmachi will cease to exist if the trend toward tourism continues.

Even if the survival of the community were not in question, the gearing of

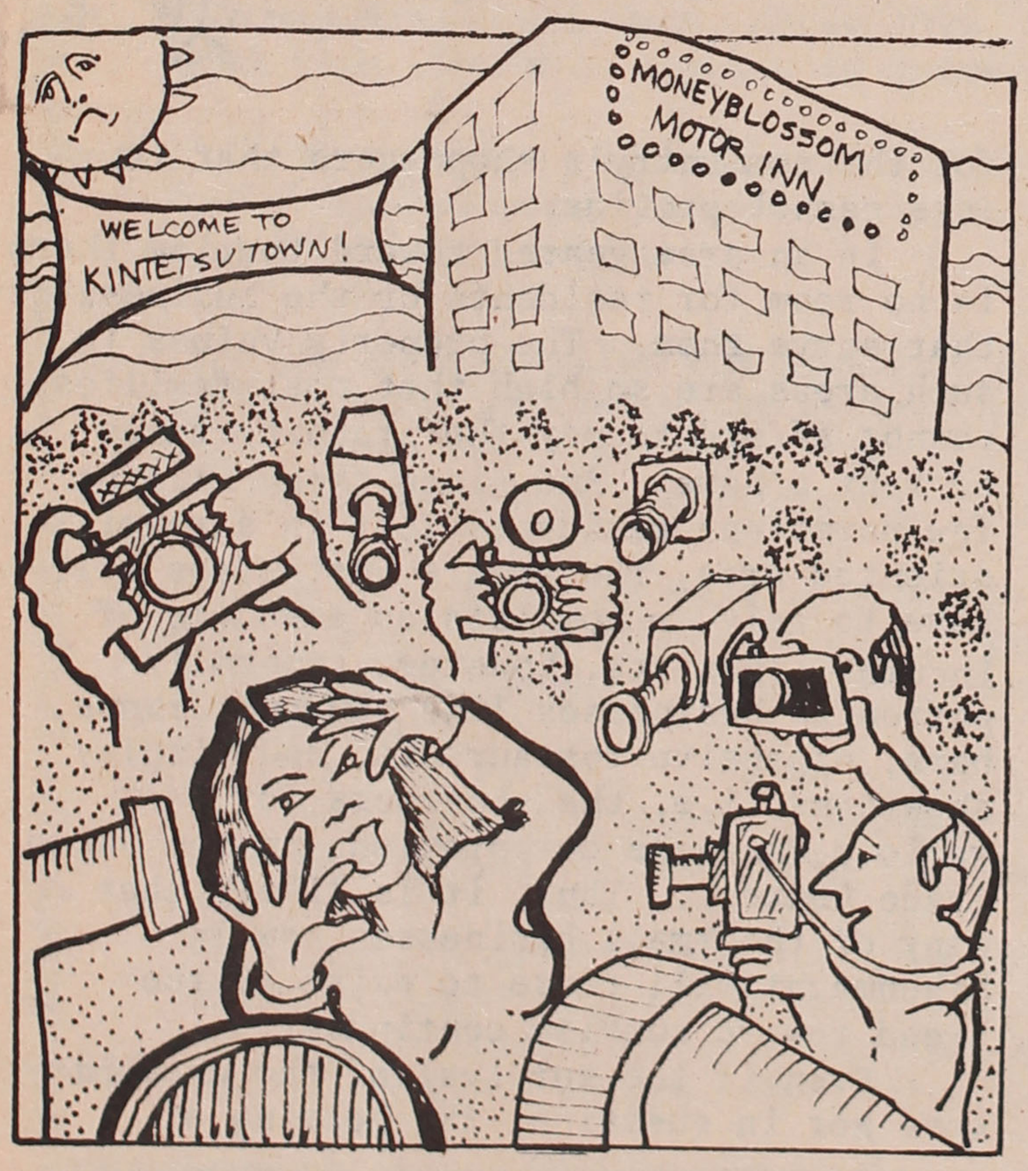


Nihonmachi towards tourism still would be a detrimental factor. Encouraging hordes of tourists to come to Nihonmachi is a profitable form of racism and a prostitution of our community. It has the effect of putting community people on display and placing a price tag on our culture.

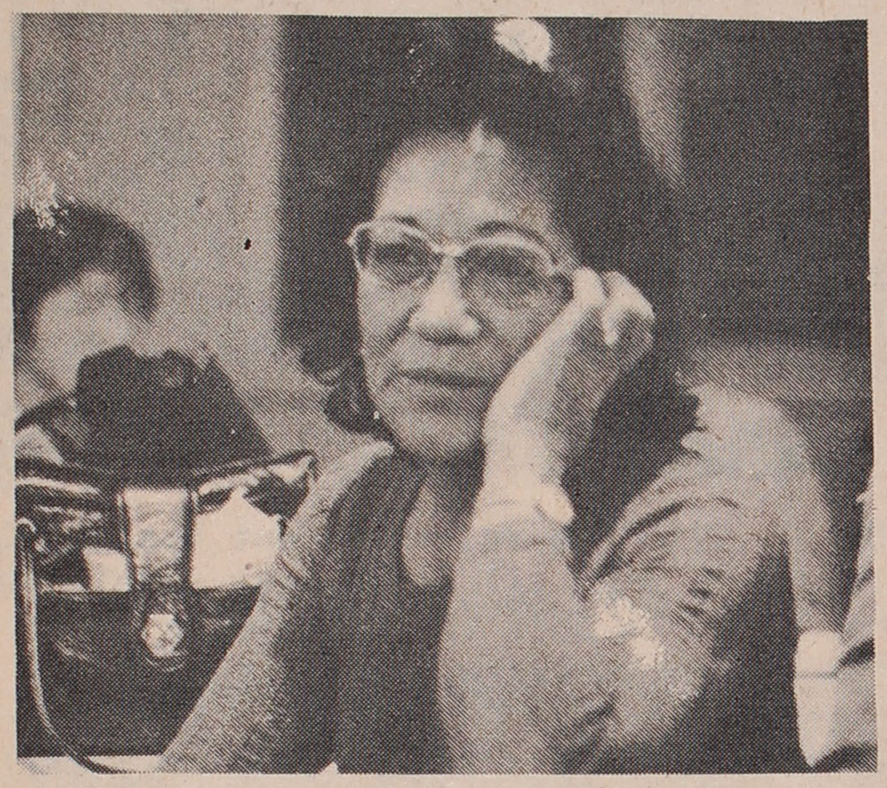
The whole motivation behind tourism in Nihonmachi is to exploit cultural differences so that tourists can come to see how exotic we are. "They want to see the people who eat raw fish and rice balls with two sticks and to hear how funny we talk," said one angry member of our community. "But we will not allow our community to be put on the same level as a car in the Datsun showroom --- to be looked at and admired, our culture to be bought and sold as a commodity."

The tourist industry being promoted in our community by Kintetsu and RDA is destroying our homes, small businesses and the spirit of Nihonmachi. Tourism does not raise the quality of life for our people but puts a price tag on our culture and turns our community into a display item. Tourism is destroying what belongs, historically and spiritually, to the people of Nihonmachi in order to harvest profits for an elite few.

A fundamental choice is before us all today: Either we the people of the Japanese American community must stand up and claim what is rightfully ours ---or we will allow our culture and ourselves to be prostituted by the callous, profit-motivated outside forces.



"I need one customer who will come in ten times, not ten customers who will come only once"



SUE WONG
Wong's Bait Shop

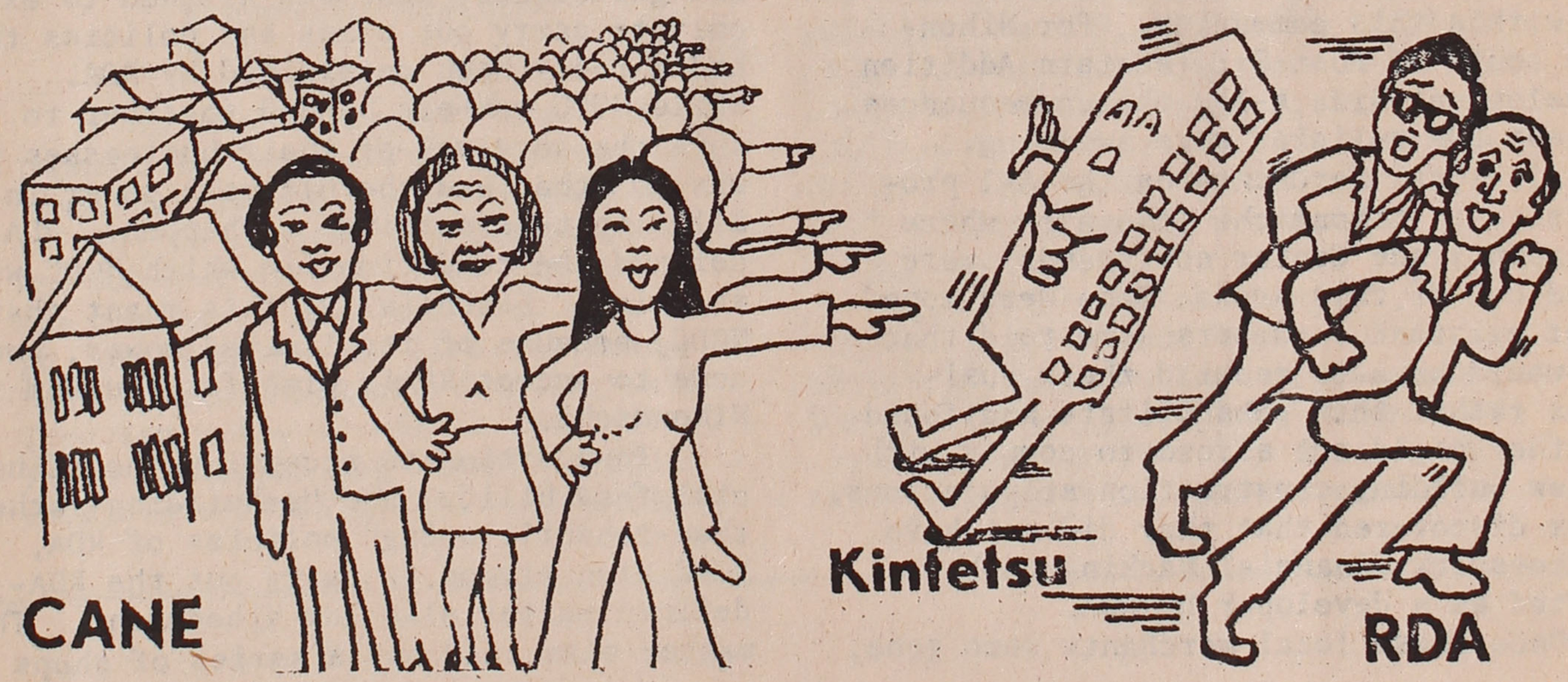
My business has been in the area for over 25 years. I have experienced all the changes that have taken place in Nihonmachi.

There used to be lots of activity in the community, but the Redevelopment Agency killed all of that by driving all the little guys out. Now, this place is like a ghost town after 7 p.m.

Some of the small businessmen think that tourism will be the answer. But I doubt it. In my business, I need one customer who will come in ten times, not ten customers who will come only once.

Why did I join CANE? Because something needs to be done. I think that it is good that individuals in our community are finally trying to do something about it. I believe that uniting the young with the old helps to build a stronger foundation and most importantly, a strong community.

Only by uniting together can we insure our right to say how we would like the Nihonmachi community to be. It is community people --- old and young --- not the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency or big business interests that should determine Nihonmachi's future.



CANE Examines the Motives And $elf-Interests of NCDC

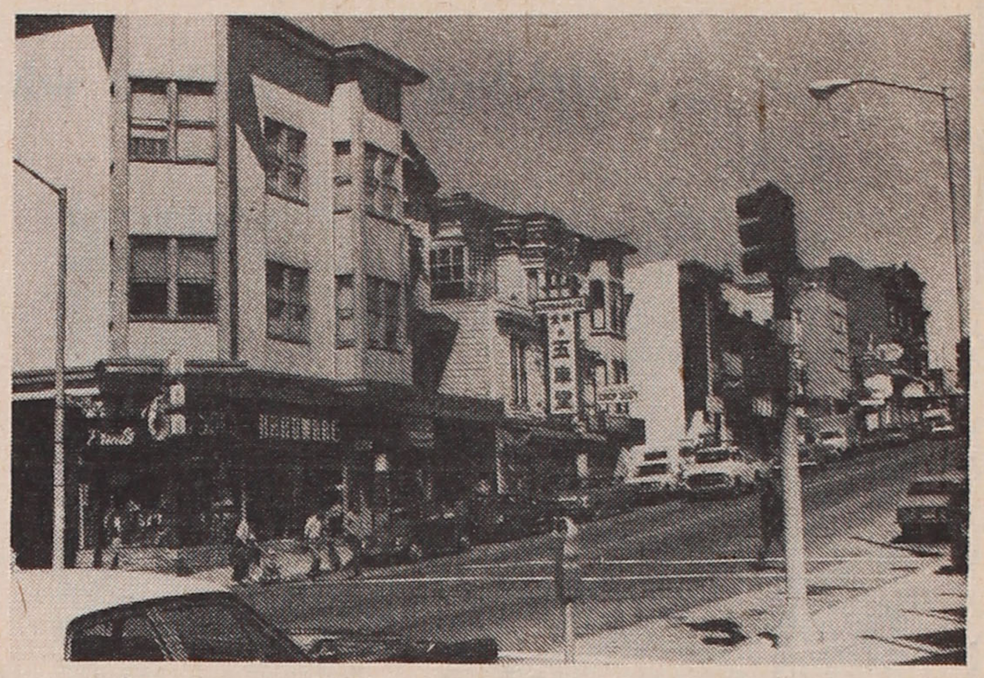
In order to understand how the Nihonmachi Community Development Corporation (NCDC) fits into the question of redevelopment in Nihonmachi, we must first understand the motives and plans of the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency (RDA).

First, RDA is oriented primarily around the Financial District and big business interests. RDA seeks to rebuild various parts of our city (redevelopment areas) to make them conform to the San Francisco redevelopment master plan, transforming this city into the "Wall Street of the West." Second, given this primary orientation to big business interests, RDA is concerned with improving the quality of life for the people in redevelopment areas only when this does not interfere with the completion of the overall master plan. Third, the redevelopment of Nihonmachi is geared to linking our community into San Francisco's massive tourist industry. In other words, the plans and policies of RDA for Nihonmachi seek to rebuild our community in accordance with the city's overall redevelopment master plan --- for the benefit of powerful financial interests and not for the betterment of our community.

To transform a residential and small business community into a major tourist, high density commercial area is no easy economic task. Thus, RDA in the 1950's put forward to small businesses in Nihonmachi the idea that they needed to demolish and rebuild certain kinds of buildings within this community. For Nihonmachi south of Post St. (Western Addition Redevelopment Area A-1), the consequences of these RDA policies were sweeping.

All local merchants on the A-1 project site in Nihonmachi (the area where the Japan Trade Center now stands) were pushed out of this area. Some were zoned out of existence. Others were told that they would have to rebuild their businesses rather than rehabilitate and found that they could not afford to comply with the new building construction stipulations. Others discovered that they did not have the necessary financial backing to be accepted as a developer by RDA.

Once these local merchants were gone,



RDA --- with the redevelopment master plan clearly in mind --- sought out developers that would be able to "re-develop" the area in accordance with the agency's policies. National Braemar of Hawaii, Kintetsu Enterprises and Dream Corporation of Japan were chosen and accepted to build the three block Japan Cultural and Trade Center. This trade center became the essential "attraction" needed to begin the transformation of Nihonmachi into a tourist trap.

The Nihonmachi Community Development Corporation (NCDC) formed in the 1960's as part of the just struggle of the surviving owners and small developers to remain within Nihonmachi. However, the power of NCDC was extremely limited. As a "community group" working with RDA to develop four blocks and in accordance with RDA guidelines, NCDC was allowed to exist only to carry out plans and policies that had already been determined by RDA. While NCDC members banded together to insure the survival of their businesses it was RDA that had the ultimate power in allowing this survival to happen. RDA defined the conditions in which NCDC was to exist. Essentially, this meant that NCDC, because of its limited power, would come to accept RDA's plan for tourism in Nihonmachi.

In addition to accepting the "financial feasibility" and "rebuilding-rather-than-rehabilitating" policies of RDA, NCDC also agreed to carry out the RDA-defined master plan for Nihonmachi. The master plan laid out a series of shops and

restaurants to complement the existing Japan Trade Center. A second tourist hotel to complement the luxury Miyako Hotel was informally suggested. Later, an economic feasibility study paid for jointly by RDA and NCDC --- aimed at defining how Nihonmachi could become economically successful --- fully supported the idea of tourism and formally suggested a second hotel as an economic asset for the area.

As a group concerned with its own economic success, as a group dependent on RDA for its continued existence, NCDC today represents only a handful of businessmen. Many of the original NCDC members have left, unable to afford to stay within a Nihonmachi defined by the RDA master plan. Most home owners have found it cheaper to buy new homes in the Richmond district than to stay in Nihonmachi to rebuild their former residences. Many small businesses either could not qualify for a large loan to begin a new development or did not want to be burdened by a huge mortgage. Other small shop keepers were forced to retire early by the RDA-defined policies dictating development in Nihonmachi.

While representing only a handful of people, NCDC has necessarily become a dependent accomplice of RDA. RDA does not need NCDC to finish its plan for the area --- Kintetsu or another big corporation could carry it out. But NCDC needs RDA to continue its existence. NCDC, thus, becomes willing to do anything RDA tells it to do, including turning its back on the community.

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"It all boils down to the RICH and the POOR"

CHARLES TOYOOKA
Nihonmachi Resident

From what I observe, the Redevelopment Agency is trying to make Nihonmachi into a downtown annex. It will be nothing but the businessmen using tourists. The big guys are the only ones that can make a go of it in places like the Trade Center, like Hitachi or Mitsubishi. They can write it off in taxes. These so-called big Japanese industries in the Center are just plain commercial. The Trade Center is prime area; it means nothing but money.

In my life, I traveled all over and saw different types of people, but it mainly boils down to the rich and the poor, the money man getting everything. Before we had harmony between local merchants. The local merchants weren't that big and were part of the community. Now with these rich corporations, the rent is too high and the average Buddhahead can't even go into a Trade Center bar for a drink because it costs too much.

I lived in Japanesetown for around 25 years. When I get my eviction notice, I'll take it up to my committee. I joined the residents' committee because, like anything else, we have to have a little unity. I can't do anything by myself. With a group, we have a chance of winning.

If we don't stick together, we have no fight on our hands. It's a matter of small businessmen and working people --- just plain Buddhaheads --- getting together for one common cause. We want a Japanese community.

UNITED TOGETHER WE'LL NEVER B

LONG LIVE NI

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HONMACHI !!!

OTHER VOICES/ Comment on current issues from various contributors

Dilemma of Japan Town merchants

By Dexter Waugh

A sticky situation currently exists in Nihonmachi, San Francisco's so-called Japan Town. The situation has a bearing on the lives of all San Franciscans because it heralds the destruction of another City neighborhood, under the guise of bringing about its rebirth.

Caught in the middle are the merchants of Nihonmachi, who 10 years ago won the right to control the rebuilding of their community — under the guidance of the Redevelopment Agency.

Today, the situation has boiled down to one of community interest versus self-interest.

An editorial in The Examiner March 1 reflected only one side of this situation. As a reporter who has watched it closely, I would like to bring some additional perceptions.

Joined as the Nihonmachi Community Development Corporation (NCDC), the merchants have approved a controversial hotel, to be built by Kintetsu, a Japan-based corporation which already owns half the Japan Trade Center on Geary Street.

The hotel is being challenged by a group of Japanese-Americans called CANE — Committee Against Nihonmachi Eviction. They feel the Japanese-American community already has suffered too much dispersal.

At least 1000 Japanese-Americans have been forced to move from Nihonmachi since Redevelopment unfolded its plans for the area in the early 1960s and began condemning buildings.

A significant number of CANE members are Nisei, that same generation which was herded into World War II detention camps. They want low cost housing in Nihonmachi, distrust the influence of large corporations in Nihonmachi's Redevelopment, and are concerned with the rights of those displaced.

Yori Wada, the widely-respected Buchanan YMCA director and community representative on the NCDC from its inception, says he "wished CANE had been on the scene 10 years ago. It would have made a difference."

Wada is given much credit for resolving the touchy problem of which NCDC members would get what property in the four-block area being developed. That, of course, is why the NCDC was formed — to give merchants and property owners a chance to buy back some of their property, or at least to maintain their businesses under the new Redevelopment plan.

"A great many Japanese merchants who took part in the formation of the NCDC were motivated by self-preservation, and that's it," says Wada.

"We really didn't consider the removal of the people who live there, where they would go — these considerations never did get the attention they deserved. Their (the merchants) self interest and need to survive in that area were too dominant. The people who could have brought these considerations to the NCDC board of directors didn't join the NCDC."

Today, the NCDC's merchants are at a crossroads. Shouldered with city requirements to finance parking facilities in the new Nihonmachi, as well as with their own high construction costs, most merchants think the proposed Kintetsu hotel will attract tourists who bring business, which will help pay mortgages.

They have had to adapt to the style represented by the large corporations which built and operate the Japan Trade Center. That takes money, and for a small businessman in his 50s — as many Nisei merchants are — life can, all of a sudden, seem very tough.

Now CANE has come along and begun raising issues the NCDC should have raised 10 years ago. CANE is fighting the concept of tourism. For one thing, CANE members deplore the idea of a foreigh corporation turning their community into a circus sideshow, which is what a tourist attraction usually amounts to.

More importantly, they want to retain the community as a place in which Japanese-Americans can afford to live and which they can use as a focal point for their activities.

Rents in the new Nihonmachi, however, will start at around $250 a month. Wada estimates most people who once lived in the area earned between $6000 and $8000 a year, and could not afford to live there after redevelopment.

Several hundred units of low cost housing are being built on the fringes of the four block area, but the NCDC-Redevelopment plan does not include any residentially-oriented shops and services.

At least one example of the NCDC's lack of interest in building for all Japanese-Americans can be cited. On one corner, three development proposals were presented to the NCDC's site allocation committee. One was a bowling alley to be built by the Kintetsu corporation. Another was a grocery store. The committee voted for the grocery store.

This was later voted down by the NCDC directors. Certain members of the NCDC, who operate similar businesses, thought the new store would be competition.

Community interest, or self-interest?

Perhaps the merchants were too overwhelmed by the power of the Redevelopment Agency in the beginning. But it is not too late to begin listening to pleas from their friends and neighbors in CANE.

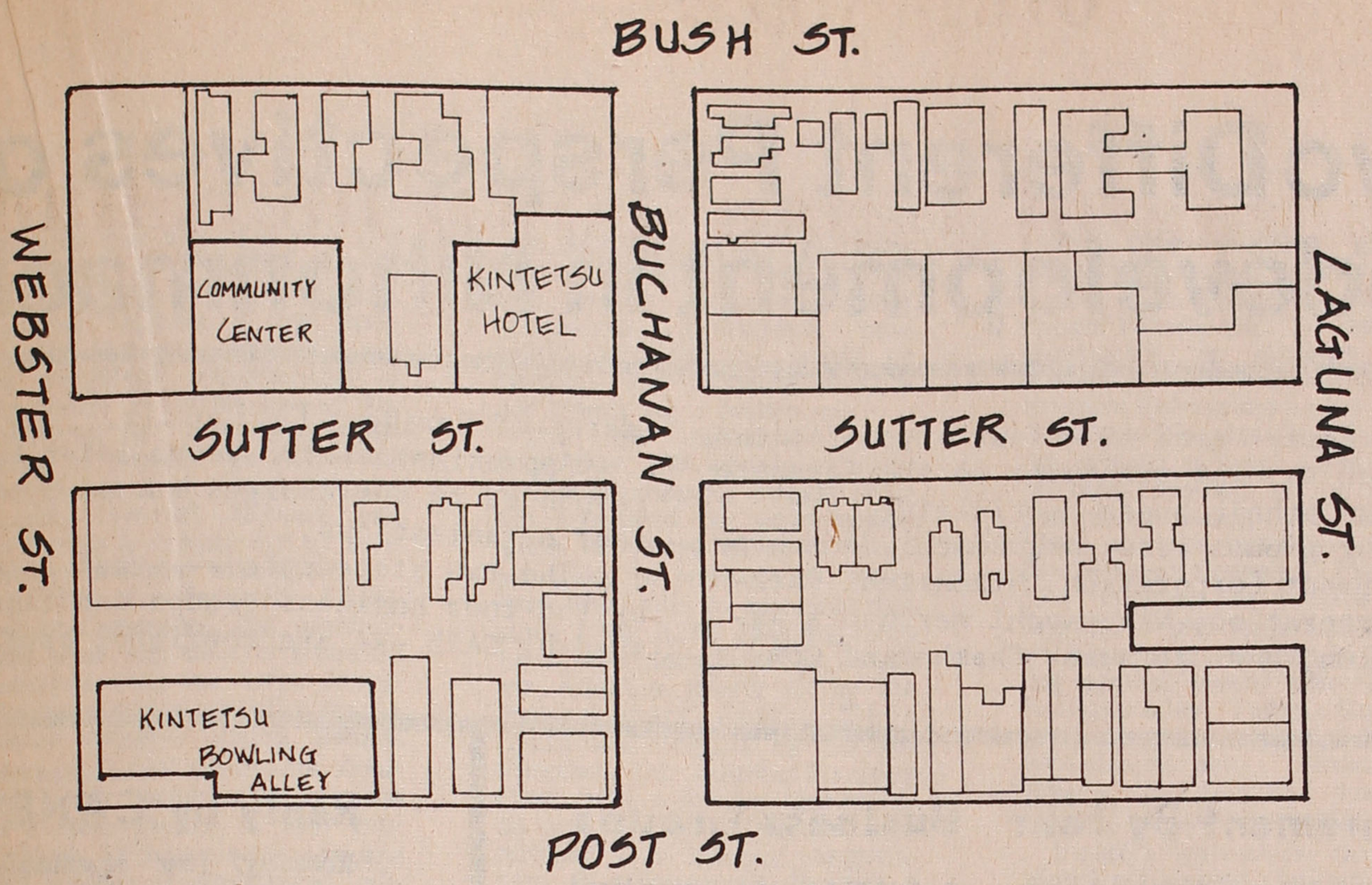
Kintetsu could be persuaded, perhaps, to give up its proposed bowling alley in favor of more residential businesses. The NCDC developers constructing the new $250 a month apartments might be persuaded to lower rents so some of the original Japanese-American inhabitants could return.

But the merchants feel locked in, unable to listen.

Meanwhile, they struggle to raise the capital to stay in Nihonmachi and some of them are not making it.

But the Redevelopment Agency suffers not at all. And Kintetsu anticipates the profits from tourists flocking to the new redeveloped "Japan Town."

Reprinted from San Francisco Examiner
March 18, 1974



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The master plan laid out a series of shops and restaurants to complement the existing Japan Trade Center. A second tourist hotel to complement the luxury Miyako Hotel was informally suggested. Later, an economic feasibility study paid for jointly by SFRA and NCDC --- aimed at defining how Nihonmachi could become economically successful --- fully supported the idea of tourism and formally suggested a second hotel as an economic asset for the area.

As a group concerned with its own economic success, as a group dependent on the SFRA for its continued existence, NCDC today represents only a handful of businessmen. Many of the original NCDC members have left, unable to afford to stay within a Nihonmachi defined by the SFRA master plan. Most home owners have found it cheaper to buy new places in the Richmond district than to stay in Nihonmachi to rebuild their former residences. Many small businesses either could not qualify for a large loan to begin a new development or did not want to be burdened by a huge mortage. Other small shopkeepers were forced to retire early by the SFRA-defined policies dictating development in Nihonmachi.

While representing only a handful of people, NCDC has necessarily become a dependent accomplice of the SFRA. The agency does not need NCDC to finish its plan for the area --- Kintetsu or another big corporation could carry it out. But NCDC needs the SFRA to continue its existence. NCDC, thus, becomes willing to do anything RDA tells it to do, including turning its back on the community.

Thus in defining our position on NCDC CANE must take into consideration two points: 1.) NCDC does have historical, social and economic ties to Nihonmachi and is not like Kintetsu which does not have these ties and is solely interested in how to best make money; and 2.)NCDC is linked to RDA, although it is a one-way relationship with NCDC holding little power. The one-way relationship will eventually expose itself, and many businesses will have a hard time surviving.

Based on these two considerations, we should view NCDC as a controlled part of a larger process. We should continue to oppose SFRA and Kintetsu and include their junior partner, NCDC, when necessary. We believe that we can work with NCDC on certain issues, and we will attempt to work with them on a principled basis. However, we will oppose NCDC when it takes stands clearly not in the interests of the community, such as its position of support for the proposed KINTETSU Sunflower Inn. In our opposition to NCDC's position, we will explain what NCDC is, what interests it represents, and how it fits into the total scheme.

Two Different Perspectives on Redevelopment in Nihonmachi

In early March 1974 four organizations released a joint statement to the Japanese American ethnic press criticizing CANE. The four groups were: Nihonmachi Community Development Corporation, Nihonmachi Parking Corporation, Nihonmachi Merchants Association, and Japanese Chamber of Commerce of Northern California.

Approximately two weeks later, CANE responded to the charges raised by the four organizations.

The two statements --- that issued by the four business groups and that issued by CANE --- are reprinted here.

Statement By Four Business Groups

The following statement, we respectfully submit, enunciates the position of the vast majority of the Japanese American community of San Francisco:

In recent months, the media have been publicizing the actions of the Committee Against Nihonmachi Eviction (CANE). CANE has represented that it speaks for the Japanese American community of San Francisco. It does not.

Moreover, CANE has been guilty of misleading untruths:

1. CANE has asserted that 2,000 low-income Japanese Americans are presently being evicted from Nihonmachi without suitable relocation. The truth is that less than 100 persons remain to be relocated and that they are being assisted to find suitable housing within their economic means.

2. CANE has deplored the lack of low-and-moderate-income housing in the Western Addition A-2 redevelopment area. In fact, groundbreaking ceremonies were recently held to mark commencement of construction of 245 units of low-to-moderate income housing at Post and Octavia sts. The project is sponsored by the Japanese American Religious Federation, which has brought together many groups in the community. There are 350 additional units of low-to-moderate income units scheduled for construction north of Geary Boulevard in close proximity to Nihonmachi.

3. CANE has stated that large business interests from Japan seek to dominate Nihonmachi. Actually, the entire four-block Nihonmachi redevelopment project is administered by the Nihonmachi Community Development Corporation, the stockholders of which were owners or renters in that same four-block area prior to redevelopment. The people who are being directly affected by redevelopment are, therefore, themselves determining the ultimate use of "their property."

4. CANE has made the accusation that the Community has been robbed of the power to control its destiny. In truth, the United Committee for the Japanese Community, the predecessor of the Nihonmachi Community Development Corporation, formulated and approved a Nihonmachi master plan, providing for residential, commercial, and institutional uses. The master plan was adopted on March 13, 1963. Substandard structures were to be either rehabilitated or replaced by adequate buildings. Every consideration has been given to restoring Nihonmachi as the hub of the San Francisco Japanese American community.

The Japanese American community of San Francisco feels pride, not anger, in the manner in which Nihonmachi is being redeveloped. Community needs and interests have been paramount in the decision-making process. Moreover, the decision makers have been the people who are directly affected by redevelopment.

Reply by CANE

Recently, four organizations — representing mainly a select group of business interests in our community — issued a statement criticizing the Committee Against Nihonmachi Eviction (CANE) for making what they termed "misleading untruths." The four groups were: Japanese Chamber of Commerce of Northern California, Nihonmachi Community Development Corporation, Nihonmachi Parking Corporation, and Nihonmachi Merchants Association.

CANE disagrees with the arguments put forth by these four business groups, and in the spirit of community dialogue, we would like to answer their charges.

The four business groups charge CANE with stating that we speak for the entire Japanese American community. CANE has never made this statement. We have, however, asked for the support of the entire community to unite behind our twin principles of (1) stopping the destruction and dispersal of the Japanese community and preserving Nihonmachi as a residential and small business neighborhood and (2) upholding the rights of residents and small businesses.

The four business groups state that the "vast majority of Japanese Americans" supports the manner in which Nihonmachi has been redeveloped during the past two decades. CANE challenges this assertion. We ask if the concerns of the vast majority of Japanese Americans coincide with the self-interests of the four business groups.

CANE was formed a year ago to improve the quality of life for all people, not just a select business segment of our community. We are motivated not by individual self-interests or the desire to make money for ourselves, but from a commitment to protect the basic human rights of all people to safe, decent, low-cost housing and to live in a community of their own choice and making.

Unlike the Japanese Chamber of Commerce, our membership does not include powerful moneyed interests from Japan. We are common working people, senior citizens, young people, residents, small merchants, families. Our membership consists of a cross section of four generations of Japanese Americans and persons of other races united behind our principles.

During the past four months we have collected more than 2,800 signatures of persons supporting CANE, opposing construction of the proposed Kintetsu Sunflower Hotel, and supporting the need for low-cost housing on the hotel site.

The four business groups accuse CANE of stating that 2,000 Japanese Americans are presently being evicted from the city-defined four-block Nihonmachi area. CANE has never made this statement. Anyone familiar with Nihonmachi can plainly see that it is impossible for 2,000 people to live in the four-block area, especially with its numerous empty lots and boarded buildings.

Actually, what CANE has stated on numerous occasions is that during the past two decades, our community has been dispersed and compressed through eviction and urban removal. The clearing of the land for what was to become the Japan Trade Center alone forced out hundreds of residents and small businesses. Do the four business groups deny that this dispersal has taken place?

The four business groups state that there is a sufficient amount of low-cost housing surrounding Nihonmachi, citing the JARF housing project as an example. CANE fully supports JARF, but we also believe that Nihonmachi is in need of more low-cost housing, particularly for families and Issei. Delays in construction of JARF have already cut down the number of housing units from the original 275 to a now estimated 245.

In addition, within the four-block Nihonmachi area there will be no low-cost housing whatsoever. Apartments now being built will be priced at "market rate," starting at $225 per month for a studio unit.

The four business groups state that 350 additional units of low-to-moderate income units are scheduled for construction north of Geary Blvd. in close proximity to Nihonmachi. However, they fail to mention that since 1960, 2,600 dwelling units have been demolished in Western Addition, nearly all by the Redevelopment Agency. This figure was compiled by the San Francisco Fair Housing Planning Committee, which has also pointed out that demolition has outstripped new housing construction. In other words, there is a pressing need for more low-cost housing throughout Western Addition and Nihonmachi in particular.

The four business groups state that "the people who are being directly affected by redevelopment" are the decision makers in the redevelopment process. CANE questions this statement. If the people directly affected by redevelopment have controlled their own destinies, then what happened to the large numbers of small businesses and residents who were at one time in this area? Why are people today being evicted from their homes and shops? Why is the dispersal of our community continuing?

The Nihonmachi Community Development Corporation (NCDC), the administrators of development within the four-block area, does not speak for the total Japanese American community. NCDC is an organization dominated by a few business people who are concerned with their own self-preservation and enhancement. These NCDC members believe it is necessary for their economic survival to sacrifice low-cost housing in the area for the erection of large tourist complexes, like the Kintetsu Hotel. CANE disagrees with this kind of reasoning. We believe that a healthy community comes about by maintaining a low-cost residential neighborhood, not by banking upon a transient and unreliable tourist trade. By banking on tourism, these NCDC members are supporting the creation of a community where the rich and powerful will continue to push out small businesses and residents.

The four business groups argue that large business interests from Japan do not dominate Nihonmachi. We ask the community to measure this statement against reality. Today, Kintetsu Enterprises — the American subsidiary of Japan's largest private railway corporation — owns one-half of the Japan Center, including the Miyako Hotel and the building housing the Japanese Consulate. Kintetsu also operates the Suehiro Restaurant, a gift shop and a travel agency. It will soon be building another tourist hotel and a bowling alley. Today, Kintetsu has $15 million invested in the Nihonmachi area. Kintetsu is clearly the dominant financial interest in our community.

Finally, we notice that the statement issued by the four business groups fails to grapple with what we regard as the central issue facing the future of our community: the transformation of Nihonmachi under the redevelopment process during the past two decades from a residential and small business community into a tourist showcase.

CANE believes that Nihonmachi must be preserved as a neighborhood for residents and small businesses. It must not be changed into a Kintetsu-town or a tourist trap. Consequently, we oppose the destruction of low-cost housing for the construction of a tourist hotel.

On these most important issues, it is apparent that our perspective is very different from that now being advanced by the four business groups.

We would, however, like to hold a public meeting with the full memberships of all four business groups to talk about our areas of disagreement and our points of agreements. Before issuing this letter, we formally initiated contacts with representatives of each of the four groups to express our desire to meet with their memberships. We will keep the community posted on developments in this area.

Sincerely,

GUY T. ONO
CANE President

Low Cost HOUSING is the RIGHT of the PEOPLE

Since the mid-1950s, the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency has been evicting residents and small businesses from Nihonmachi for the construction of expensive apartment complexes and tourist attractions. The Japan Trade Center alone displaced nearly 1,000 persons; yet, no low-cost housing has been provided in the immediate area.

In addition, all housing now being built in the four-block Nihonmachi area controlled by the Nihonmachi Community Development Corporation (NCDC) will be "market rate", beginning in price at $225 per month for a studio apartment.

Virtually the only low-cost housing being planned is the JARF (Japanese American Religious Federation) housing project. The JARF committee, a group representing eleven Japanese American churches in San Francisco, has worked over six years to secure federal funds to sponsor the much-needed housing.

In defending the rights of residents and small businesses to remain in Nihonmachi, CANE firmly supports the construction of the JARF housing project. JARF will offer housing to Issei and families at low-to-moderate prices, as well as commercial sites for small businesses. Furthermore, it will preserve and promote the

Continued on Page 28

FACTS ABOUT JARF

How many units of housing will JARF provide? How much rent will be charged?

JARF will provide 245 units of housing. There will be a 13 story senior citizen building, another two story senior citizen building, family housing and townhouses.

The unit breakdown follows:

Housing Units	Rent
51 studio units	$127-135
142 1-bedroom	$149-165
30 2-bedroom	$174-193
18 3-bedroom	$202-222
4 4-bedroom	$228-251

Up to one third of the units may be subsidized according to a person's income. This would mean either paying 30% of the basic rent or 25% of the income supplemental rate.

The following are rents for the subsidized units:

Studios, $33; one-bedroom, $45; two bedroom, $52; 3-bedroom, $61; 4-bedroom, $63.

Who can move into JARF?

The criteria for applicants are as follows: Senior citizens must be 62 years or older with an income less than the established maximum limit (according to FHA 221 3D income limits). The priorities for applicants will go to permantly handicapped or disabled or those who have previously been relocated by RDA.

When will JARF be completed?

Construction was expected to commence in April 1974 with completion in fourteen months.

How can you apply for JARF?

Preliminary applications are available now at Nichiren Buddhist Church, 2016 Pine St. Applications may be returned now or three months before rent time. (Within nine or ten months following the beginning of construction, some of the low rises should be ready for rental; within 12 months, some units in the senior citizens building should be ready for inspection.

Will there be commercial space in JARF?

There will be spaces for three or four businesses within the high rise senior citizen tower. JARF is interested in having a barber shop, beauty shop, drugstore, and coin operated laundromat.

Continued from Page 26

"spirit" of the community---something tourist hotels and a trade center can never do.

Yet, while expensive apartment complexes and hotels are quickly rising, the JARF housing project has faced continual delays. With each delay, there has been a rise in construction costs, thus limiting the number of housing units that can be built.

Because of the limited number of low-cost housing JARF will provide, because of the past and continuing destruction of homes in Nihonmachi, CANE believes the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency and other government agencies should provide adequate funds to build more low-cost housing in Nihonmachi and to rehabilitate the existing homes for the residents. Funds to provide this low-cost housing and rehabilitation for the residents should come from government reparations for the millions of dollars lost by the Japanese American community during the wartime evacuation.

Under CANE's principles of saving the community for the residents and small businesses and upholding the rights of residents and small businesses to remain in Nihonmachi; CANE demands a written guarantee from the Redevelopment and the federal government that the JARF housing project will be completed and that more low-cost housing suitable for families and Issei be built.

We cannot allow the destruction of our community and the dispersal of residents to go unchallenged. We cannot allow the right of all people for decent, low-cost housing to go unmet.

Housing Destruction in San Francisco

How many units of housing has the Redevelopment Agency demolished in the City of San Francisco?

According to statistics compiled by the Neighborhood Legal Assistance and the League of Women Voters, RDA has destroyed:

*6,000 low cost housing units in Western Addition A-1
*5,000 low cost housing units in Western Addition A-2
*3,000 low cost housing units in Hunter's Point
*4,000 low cost housing units in Yerba Buena

Moreover, RDA has eliminated 7,000 low cost housing units through the FACE (Federal Assistance Code Enforcement) Program by upgrading these units with no rent control.

In addition, 1,000 more low cost housing units are projected to be destroyed in Western Addition and 1,000 more units for Yerba Buena.

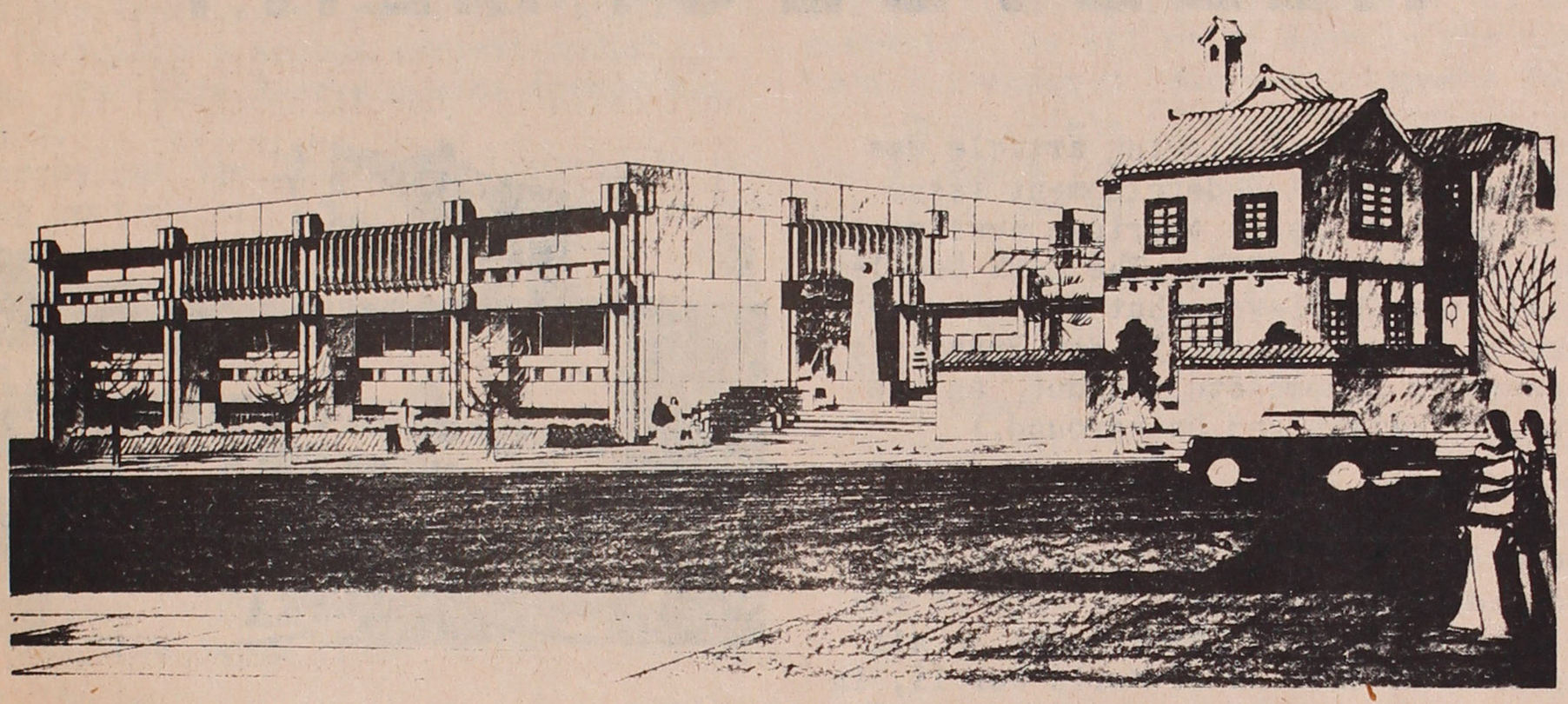
How many units of housing has RDA built?

According to research compiled by Tenants Action Group from RDA sources, the agency as of January 1973 has built 5,632 units with another 1,500 units under construction.

This is a total of 7,132 housing units built city-wide which is part of 14,000 units projected to be built. Of this, only 1200-3000 will be low cost housing. The rest will be for low cost-middle income bracket. (A few subsidized housing will be available, but the number is now known.)

Thus, a total of 27,000 low cost housing units have been destroyed or will be destroyed, but RDA is building 14,000 units to replace those destroyed. Of these 14,000 only 1200 to 3000 will be low cost housing units.

CANE Supports the Issei Memorial Center



The proposed Issei Memorial Center (Japanese Cultural and Community Center) is an important project that will help to promote a sense of community---a cultural, historical, economic, political and social bond---for the Japanese American population of San Francisco.

CANE supports the construction of the Issei Memorial Center, because we believe the project will help to counteract the growing emphasis on tourism and commercialism that has come to characterize Nihonmachi under the San Francisco redevelopment master plan.

The proposed community center will be built on the middle of the Sutter St. block between Webster and Buchanan sts. The center will have two aspects: 1) a community aspect, providing meeting rooms for community groups, lounges, a library, a gymnasium, and centralized social service and community service facilities for Japanese Americans in San Francisco; and 2) a cultural aspect concerning the promotion of Japanese culture.

CANE believes that the most important aspect of the Issei Memorial Center will be the community aspect. By functioning as a building designed to meet the needs of the Japanese American people, the Issei Memorial Center can serve as an important focal point for our community, promoting community consciousness, bringing people together, and counteracting the destruction and dispersal of the Japanese community begun by the wartime evacuation and continued after the war by the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency.

CANE further believes that the burden for financing the construction of the community center should not be placed on the Japanese American community, as the Redevelopment Agency is now doing. The burden properly should be borne by the Redevelopment Agency and other government agencies, which historically have committed innumerable injustices on the Japanese American people. CANE believes that the funds for building the center should come from federal government reparations to the Japanese American community for the approximately $400 million lost by Issei and Nisei in property and possessions during the wartime evacuation.

CANE believes the Redevelopment Agency and the federal government should provide a written guarantee to the Japanese American community that the Issei Memorial Center will be built and that it will be a center geared to the needs of Japanese Americans --- not tourists or Japanese corporations.

Finally, CANE believes that the community center must not be supported as an isolated project but must be viewed in relationship to the overall development of Nihonmachi. The Issei Memorial Center can function as a community focal point only if Nihonmachi is preserved and expanded as a residential and small business neighborhood. The Issei Memorial Center can survive only if the present trend toward the dispersal of the Japanese community by redevelopment and big business interests is counteracted and reversed.

THE ROOTS OF REDEVELOPMENT

(Editor's note: The following article was printed in a special Redevelopment issue of New Dawn, the Asian American news monthly, during April of 1973. The CANE booklet editorial staff believes that for an understanding of redevelopment in San Francisco, the picture is incomplete without an analysis of its origin and background.)

The crisis now facing Nihonmachi has its roots deeper than just the work of the Redevelopment Agency. These roots go all the way back to the end of World War II, in what is called the Pacific Rim Strategy.

For some time, the U.S. had been a major Pacific power. But at the end of World War II, with the collapse of the British, French, and Japanese empires, the U.S. became the major power in Pacific. The vast economic potential of underdeveloped Asia far outshadowed the more advanced but stagnating economics of Europe. The Pacific was the place to go.

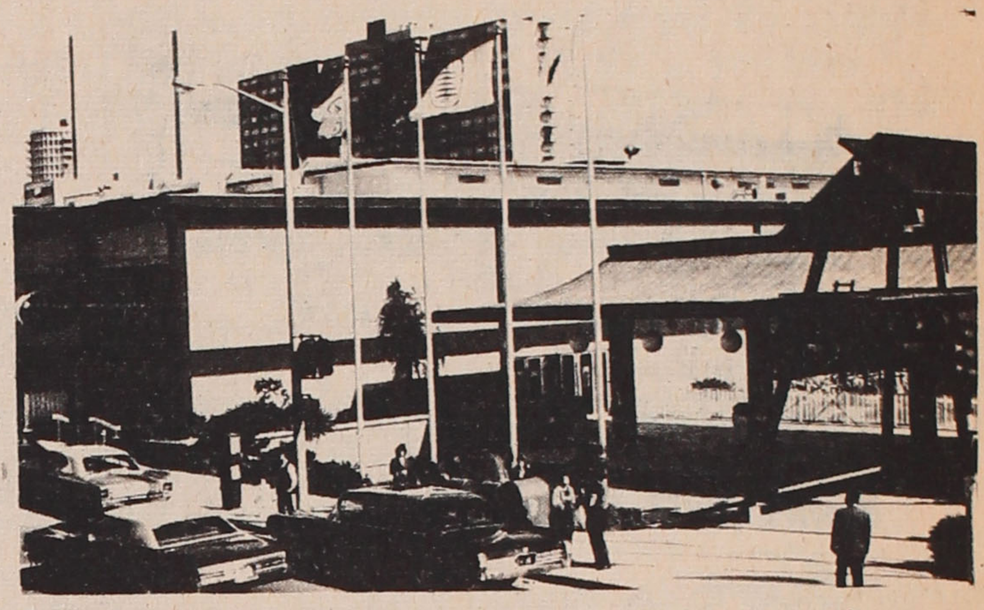
The American Style

America's economic thrusts into Asia have all been closely accompanied with military aggession. The U.S. has spent more than half the years since Pearl Harbor engaged in war with Asia. The bulk of U.S. aid has gone into the Pacific, channelled through puppets like Theiu, Park Chung Hee and Marcos, and then back into the pockets of U.S. corporations.

Billions of dollars have been invested. Tens of thousands of lives have been lost in three Asian wars, (the Chinese civil war, Korea and Vietnam). The U.S. certainly intends to hold its position in the Pacific.

America's Doorway

The gate to unleash this Pacific Rim Strategy is the Bay Area. Encompassing oil refineries in the north bay, techinical warfare industries in the south bay, and the Port of Oakland in the east bay, which alone handles over half of all West Coast trade, the Bay Area is well-set to implement this strategy.



And serving as the center for all of this is San Francisco, the financial nucleus of the Bay Area and the Pacific Rim.

Bay Area Council

To make sure that the Bay Area developed according to plan, early after World War II, the Bay Area Council, composed of the largest corporations like Bank of America, American Trust, Standard Oil, U.S. Steel, Kaiser, Bechtel, and Westinghouse, began the redevelopment of the Bay Area.

BAC's first major project is the Bay Area Rapid Transit, BART, all of whom are members of BAC (Kaiser, Westinghouse, Bechtal, Parsons and Brinkerhoff) have so far charged $1.4 billion for the yet unfinished project. Three of the nation's fifteen largest banks, Bank of America, Crocker and Wells Fargo, have had their giant world headquarters built at the S.F. financial districts BART terminals. All of these bank buildings were build as S.F. Redevelopment Agency projects.

These same three banks reappear as the financiers of the Yerba Buena Convention Center, a $385 million project of RDA.

Financialization of the City

BAC's special task for Bay Area Rapid Transit system is to complete financialization of the city of San Francisco. Not just the financial district, but the entire city is scheduled to become a complex of financial brain-centers, and high and medium rise apartments for the thousands of office

workers needed to staff these corporate headquarters. BART is the transportation system linking the Bay Area and the sections of San Francisco into this development.

Mixed in with this plan to develop the city as the finance center of the Pacific, is San Francisco's second largest industry-tourism. And here Redevelopment Agency has its plans.

Throughout San Francisco, "cultural" and shopping centers are scheduled to replace residential communities. A Black Cultural and Trade Center is planned for the Western Addition, a Chicano Trade Center is set for the Mission district, and for the Haight-Ashbury, a Union Street style center of expensive boutiques is being developed.

RDA's First Project

But the best example of this "cultural" redevelopment is the first project undertaken by RDA, the Japan Trade Center. Serving no other purpose but to house corporations from Japan, this Redevelopment project is the foot-in-the-door to destroy our community.

All of this, the callous eviction of residents, the construction of a disgusting tourist economy, the destruction of our community, is all being done in the name of "redevelopment." But redevelopment for who?

This crisis is directly brought on by the attempts to transform the Bay Area and San Francisco into the financial metropolis of the Pacific. San Francisco Redevelopment Agency is supposed to be a public agency, but the only thing public about it is the funds -- which comes from us!

Already too much has been lost to these corporate thieves. They have researched, they have planned, and now they are carrying out the destruction of Nihonmachi. The time to act is now!

FIGHT REDEVELOPMENT!!!

★★★

We need your support

Check one or more

____ I would like a membership in CANE at one dollar per year.

____ I would like to contribute _____ (tax deductable).

____ Please place me on your mailing list.

____ I would like more information on the organization.

Any additional memberships and/or information should be listed on a separate sheet.

Name _____

Address _____

_____

_____

Redevelopment: The Rich And The Poor

Nihonmachi, San Francisco, is but one of hundreds of communities in the United States today undergoing "urban removal" at the hands of powerful corporations and government agencies. Significantly, the communities most often targeted for redevelopment are neighborhoods of ethnic minority people and the poor. Or, as one Nihonmachi resident has put it, redevelopment boils down to one thing: a basic conflict between the rich and the poor, with "the money man getting everything."

Yet, where there is exploitation, there is also resistance. Across America, thousands of people are rising up against the destruction of their communities. Thousands are joining together to protect their rights and to strive to create their own destinies.

Thus, the struggle that CANE has undertaken is linked to a broader struggle that is going on throughout this nation. Our demand for low-cost family housing is a demand shared by communities of people all over the United States. Our opposition to the destruction and transformation of our community by powerful Japanese corporations and the Redevelopment Agency is a struggle similar to other communities under the siege of urban renewal. Our desire to preserve our ethnic culture and not allow it to be prostituted by a profit-hungry tourist industry is a problem common to other ethnic communities. Our quest to uphold the basic human rights to decent, low-cost housing and to live in a community of our choice is a universal pursuit of all people.

Our struggle in Nihonmachi is but a part of this larger picture.

There is much, therefore, that CANE and the people of Nihonmachi can learn from other anti-redevelopment struggles that have emerged in recent years.

Reprinted in this section is one example of a movement of common people to oppose the powerful forces of redevelopment in their community. The article is condensed from the Hoe Hana newspaper published in Honolulu, Hawaii. The article was written by Gail Miyasaki.

HAWAII JAPANESE-AMERICANS FIGHT CITY HALL

"OLD YOUNG STREET"

"Old Young Street" is a community.

Located between McCully and Isenberg Streets in Moiliili-McCully, it is one of the many older "hidden" communities in Honolulu that have endured for nearly half a century. Its residents can tell you stories of when people rode horse-and-buggies past their homes. They can tell you of World War II blackouts and wardens patrolling Young Street.

As storekeepers, florists, laundry ladies, yardmen, and janitors, these old-timers can tell you of changes they have lived through as Honolulu grew into a city.

But Young Street grew too, though not as quickly and dramatically as some other parts of Honolulu. While many of Young Street's older homes and residents remain, apartments, large businesses, and shops have gradually replaced some of the single homes that date back to the twenties and thirties.

The City has proposed an Improvement District for old Young Street. For residents, it can mean higher taxes, land loss, more traffic, and high improvement assessments that many of them cannot afford.

"To us, Young Street is home," said residents in a leaflet to the community. "It is hard to imagine being forced to sell our homes and move."

Not only would the proposed Improvement District mean possible loss of homes and friends, but a loss of community as well.

How does one measure the loss when "Waikiki-style concrete commercial buildings" begin to line Young Street where once well-maintained 40-year-old wooden frame homes stood?

How does one measure the loss of well-kept gardens and yards, neatly-trimmed hedges and trees when wider streets, heavier traffic, and sidewalks take their place?

"I'm not a property-owner so this (Improvement District) does not affect me the same," said K.M. Tsukada, operator of Nishijo Store, a small neighborhood store on Young Street.

"But I'm concerned with the old folks. Where do they go? I cannot just turn my back on them. We've been good neighbors and good friends."

How do you measure that?

Perhaps by telling of their concern and action as a community on the proposed Improvement District, an understanding of what their community is can be reached.

And perhaps by understanding what "community" has meant in Hawaii, we can begin to create and build on the meaning of "we."

* * *

"NO POLOLEI!" said 74-year-old Mrs. **Waka Iwamoto**, a 45-year resident of old Young Street in reference to the City's Improvement District plan for her neighborhood.

"It is not right."

Mrs. Iwamoto is one of 250 residents and tenants of old Young Street who would be directly affected by the City's Improvement proposal. Many of them have lived in old Young Street for over forty years. Some of them own their homes which are kept in neat and well-maintained condition, inspite of the age of their homes.

When the City first proposed the Improvement District plan in early summer of this year, some of the residents expressed concern over the high assessments that would force many of the people to sell their homes and move.

"Many of our residents are old folks, Japanese-speaking old folks," said Mrs. **K.M. Tsukada**, who has run the familiar neighborhood Nishijo Store on Young Street for over 40 years.

"These people are the ones we are all most concerned with. Where would they go?"

THE IMPROVEMENT PLAN for old Young Street is based on the City's 1973-1978 Capital Improvement Plan. For old Young Street specifically, four major reasons were given for an improvement district in that area:

- street widening to conform to General Plan width (56 feet).
- better traffic circulation and alleviation of conjestion.
- installation of sidewalks and other "basic improvements" (curbing, drainage, driveways) currently lacking.
- "valuable commercial zoning is currently underutilized."

Although Young Street is predominantly residential, it has been zoned B-2 (commercial-business) since 1966.

Old Young Street is one of the many older residential areas remaining in Moiliili-McCully and it is probably one of the first to be faced with an Improvement District plan that would eventually end its residential lifestyle.

HIGH COST to the residents was the most critical and immediate concern of the old Young Street community. To complete the Improvement project, the total cost was estimated at $950,000. Residents were informed by **Tooru Murakami** of the City's Public Works Department that they would pay "only half" of the financial burden.

Through research, residents later found that their actual share came to approximately $600,00 or about 63% of the Improvement District costs.

According to a leaflet residents circulated in their community following notification of the Improvement District proposal, an average 5,000 square foot lot would be assessed about $13,340 for improvement costs. Since payments could be made yearly over the next 20 years, interest alone could amount to over $8,000, bringing a property-owner's share to about $21,500.

"This $20,000 for improvements that we don't need is going to come out of our own pockets," said **John Tavares**, who was born and raised in old Young Street.

"And under the (present) zoning (of commercial), we cannot even rebuild our homes on our own property," he added.

LOSS OF LAND would also be incurred by all residents of Young Street for street widening purposes.

"We were told eight feet would be taken from our side, four feet for sidewalk and four feet for 'beautification'," remarked Mrs. Tsukada.

"That would mean I'd have to close my store and move if they take that much land away.

"And what's the other four feet for 'beautification'? We beautify our neighborhood with our hedges, trees, and gardens," she added.

For others, the land loss would mean reduction of their houselots to "unsaleable size," or the loss of garages which would add to the parking problem on

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HAWAII JAPANESE AMERICANS

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Young Street.

MOST IMPORTANTLY, the residents found that under present laws, if a property owner is not able to pay his share of the assessments, the City can take his property and auction it off.

Faced with the possibility of high assessment costs, land loss, traffic congestion, noise, and the probable end of "our simple residential living on Young Street," the future looked bleak for the people of old Young Street this summer.

"THE ORGANIZING of the community to fight this Improvement District plan was a remarkable, if not incredible accomplishment by Young Street residents," remarked one of the students from the University of Hawaii's Ethnic Studies Program who came to aid the residents in research.

In the beginning, the attitude of most of the people was that the Improvement District plan was "unavoidable," but slowly the people came to realize that it was "not inevitable if we all stick together," said a resident.

Concern for their neighbors and neighborhood brought many of the residents together during the summer to decide the best collective approach to their problem. With the help of students from the University and other concerned individuals, residents formed a resident organization, did research, talked to officials, and canvassed their neighborhood with a newsletter to inform their neighbors of the Improvement District plan and its implications for old Young Street.

ON SEPTEMBER 5, they invited City officials to a large mass meeting with residents of old Young Street on the Improvement District plan.

Adding to each other's testimony, resident after resident voiced their objections to the Improvement proposal. For some of them it was the first time they had ever spoken up in public to address officials.

They told Councilman **James Shigemura, George Yamashita** (Transportation Services), **Walter Lee** (City General Planning), and **Tooru Murakami** (City Public Works) that residents of old Young Street were opposed to the Improvement plan because of 1) high costs, 2) land loss, and 3) that the plan "would be for *future commercial use*, not for our benefit as *residents*."

UPON HEARING residents objections, Councilman Shigemura remarked, "I did not realize how violently you people are opposed to this Improvement District,"

Murakami, of the Public Works Department, added that because of "the predominantly negative reaction to our proposal . . . our recommendation will be that this project be deferred."

BUT SUCCESS was not yet declared by the residents until some of them went to the City Council's Finance Committee meeting on September 28 where the Improvement District proposal was currently in discussion.

Before the meeting, residents had sent letters to the Committee expressing their objections to the Improvement plan.

In a one-line statement in the Committee Minutes, the City Finance Committee "in agreement with the City Transportation Department, defers action for (an) Improvement District" for old Young Street.

"It was only one line," said Mrs. Nishi, "but it meant a great deal to us," for it showed that residents' "interest and concern" had paid off.

THE RESIDENTS of old Young Street are almost all Japanese. And they are almost all longtime residents of the area.

Today the majority of them are *nisei* or second generation. Some among them have been born and raised in the neighborhood, having inherited their homes from their parents.

"In 1928, when I first bought my home, there were a lot of Chinese living in this area," said Mrs. Iwamoto, who came from Yamaguchi prefecture in Japan. Following the Chinatown fire of 1900, many Chinese had settled in the Moiliili-McCully district.

Beginning in the early 1910s and throughout the 1920s, the Japanese, most of them *issei* or first-generation, began settling in the Young Street area.

"Perhaps the old folks could buy, perhaps this place was convenient, being in town," suggested Mrs. Tsukada. "Perhaps that's what accounts for the many Japanese old folks in our neighborhood."

A small residential community began to flourish in the early 1900s in old Young Street, with a general store, barber shop, and a vegetable stand in the center, recalls Mrs. Iwamoto.

Lacking skills and with few opportunities, the *issei* settlers found jobs as yardmen, waiters, cooks, or carpenters. Mrs. Iwamoto's husband was a janitor for 28 years for Waikiki's Elks Club.

CONCERN FOR THESE ISSEI, who had settled and built old Young Street and are now elderly, has been the unselfish overriding concern of the old Young Street residents' organization," observed an University student.

When the City was criticized by residents for failing to adequately inform them of the Improvement District hearing and of the zoning change from apartment to residential in 1966, many of the residents were especially angered that the City had made no attempt to relay the information through the Japanese newspapers and radio stations in order to inform the Japanese-speaking residents of old Young Street. They charged that in effect, the City had "denied these people their rights as citizens" by failing to inform them.

When residents held meetings and made leaflets, Japanese interpreters and translators were on hand to insure that the "*issei* were included throughout the entire process," one resident pointed out.

When word came out of the Improvement District plan, **Bernard Sato**, though no longer a resident of old Young Street, began regularly attending community meetings and serves on the Young Street Residents' Steering Committee, because of his personal concern for his parents and other Japanese-speaking old people in the neighborhood.

PROBLEMS STILL remain, for the residents of old Young Street, even though the Improvement District plan has been halted. And they all point to future development for commercial land use.

Residents realize that halting the Improvement District is only a "temporary victory;" that in order to insure the integrity of their community, a change in zoning from the 1966 commercial ruling must be made.

THE YOUNG AND OLD of old Young Street, through combined efforts, have so far succeeded in saving their community. Moved by unselfish concern for their neighbors and neighborhood, residents of old Young Street have given special meeaning to "community" in Hawaii.

CANE's Broadening Perspective

During the course of the development of a community based organization such as CANE it becomes necessary to consider the various directions in which to move forward. Our basic principles of; (1) Stopping the destruction and dispersal of Nihonmachi and keeping it a small business and residential area, and (2) upholding the rights of residents and small businesses, established the basis upon which CANE initiated its work within the community

From our initial work on the JARF block, we began to fight the evictions of residents and small businesses from Nihonmachi, to fight the destruction of badly needed inexpensive housing, and to uphold the rights of the people of Nihonmachi. Our work was mainly directed at the results of the SF Redevelopment Agency's policies.

From this begining CANE became involved in many other issues confronting the future of Nihonmachi because the initial task of helping residents and small businesses and protecting their rights was not an isolated issue. The problem, in a much wider perspective, was the continuing destruction and dispersal of the community. The problems of eviction and relocation are usually seen as problems solely of the individuals involved. CANE has made people aware that the dispersal of the people from Nihonmachi is one with which we must all concern ourselves. The future of Nihonmachi with the special spirit it has always had is at stake. It is in this sense of developing a community of concern that CANE began to broaden its work within the community.

CANE, through its actions and the various positions it has taken, has always remained within the guidelines established by our two principles-the intentions of which are to improve the quality of life for the people of the community, not to disrupt the harmony and interdependence built through many years living together. Throughout its various campaigns, CANE has gained the support of a vast number of people and organizations within the Japanese-American population. There have also been a few who do not agree with CANE's positions and we respect their right to their own opinions. However, the membership of CANE, totaling over 200, attests to the broad spectrum of people who believe that the community should benefit the people, not merely a select few.

The perspective of CANE up to the present has been limited to involvement in many time consuming tasks as daily work with the residents, investigation, publicity, and the Kintetsu campaign. These tasks have required immediate attention. As a result, much of the energy within CANE has been channeled into areas which did not allow for much attention on future perspectives.

While working with residents and small businesses affected by RDA remains CANE's priority, we must also expand the membership and broaden the perspective on how to best achieve our aims. Throughout the development of CANE, mass support has been our primary strength in the struggle. This growing support indicates an increasing concern with the future of Nihonmachi.

The future of Nihonmachi must be determined by the common people who live, work and participate in the life of the community. The welfare of the people must be the primary consideration in the work of CANE. We have learned that the struggle against RDA is limited to the problems created by the agency. But that there are many other problems that the members of our community are confronted with in every aspect of our daily lives. The growing need for housing, crime in the community, the growth of tourism and the rising rents and taxes we must pay are just a few of the problems. Added to all these problems is the issue particular to Japanese Americans and other ethnic minorities---the problem of racism.

The solution to the problems that face the Japanese American community necessitates that CANE reach out to the people to learn from the experiences and rich history we all share in common and to continue to do education around the issues and draw new people into the work of the organization. In short, CANE must become more involved in the life of the community and work actively to rebuild it. We, therefore, have begun to develop support committees for both JARF which will provide low cost housing in the community, and the Issei Memorial Center which will provide a focal point in developing a sense of community. It is from the desire to raise the quality of life of the people that we see this broadening of our perspectives and the need to involve the whole community into this struggle.

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ONE YEAR OF STRUGGLE-UNITE TO MOVE FORWARD

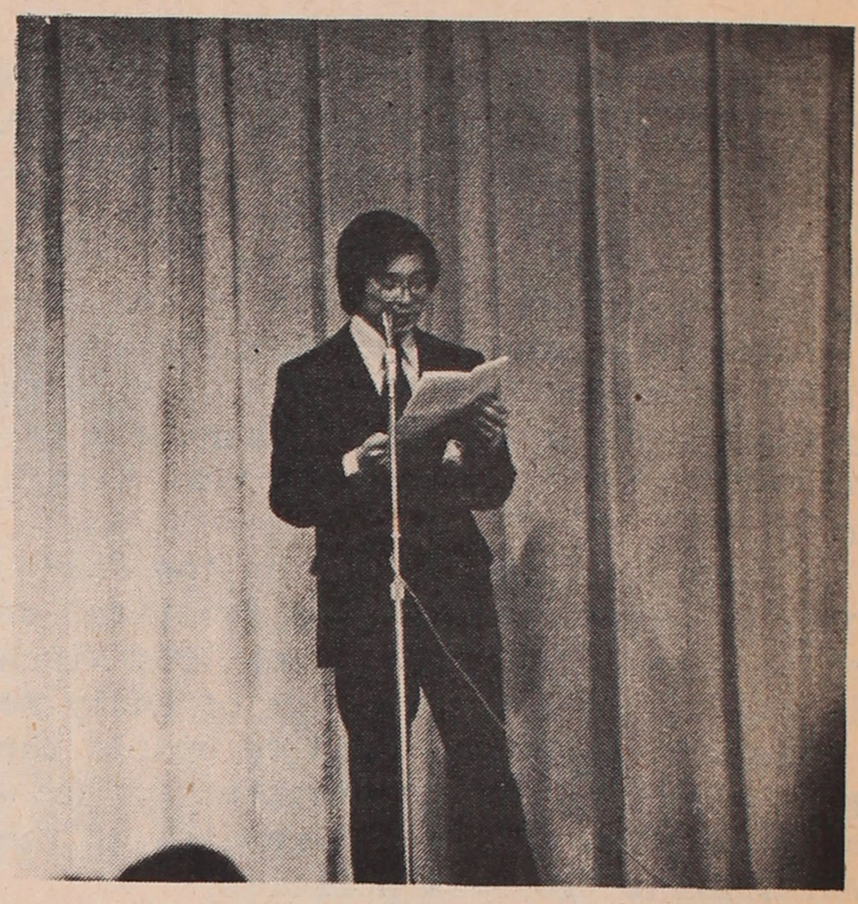
GUY T. ONO
CANE President

CANE formed out of the concrete struggle with RDA. At the time of CANE's formation we could see many people at a loss over what to do about RDA. Overall, RDA did not help the people they were, in essence, kicking out of their homes and businesses; while at the same time destroying the whole community, turning it into a tourist attraction.

CANE showed these people as well as the Japanese community and the people of San Francisco what we as an organized force could accomplish. We saw that we could not effect any changes by ourselves, so we put the struggles of CANE before the whole community. We showed that by starting from the interest of the community, and putting forward our principles into concrete action, we could start to change and direct our own future. We believed and were proven correct, that once the people of the community and the city understood the issues, their support for CANE would follow. We knew that only through the support of the whole community would CANE be able to combat RDA and Kintetsu from completely destroying Nihonmachi. These are valuable lessons that we have learned and are still proving and developing.

We must now take these lessons of the last year and use them again in this next year of struggle. We must start to apply these lessons not only in a limited way of opposing RDA and Kintetsu. We must start to now apply them to broader perspectives and tasks. We know that RDA and Kintetsu are not the only forces that are working to destroy our community and other communities. We must now see our work in larger terms, so that we may help raise the quality of life for the people of Nihonmachi and San Francisco.

Of course this broader task cannot be accomplished by the CANE membership alone. We must simultaneously expand our perspective and our membership. In order to fight to raise the quality of life for the community, we must make it a fight of the whole community and all its members. Only when the people of this community and the City of San Francisco stand up to oppose what is wrong and fight for what they believe to be right can we then start to decide our own future.



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CANE's perspectives of the future call for looking beyond the differences between people of the community. It is important that the various segments of the community are able to set aside their petty differences and attempt to work with each other in an unified manner for the sake of the entire community.

★★★

CANE'S PRINCIPLES

To stop the destruction and dispersal of the Japanese Community and to keep Nihonmachi a small business and residential area.

To uphold the rights of residents and small businesses.

"Let us unite to protect and create the destiny of our Nihonmachi community"

TOKUO MIYAO
Nihonmachi Resident
CANE Advisor

All future forces must be crushed today or Nihonmachi will be washed away not only by the spread of tourism, but also by the multi-national expansion of Ugly Americanism and Ugly Japanese economic expansionism. This struggle is slowly defining the philosophical basis of existence and undoubtedly has taken a first step of the coming of the New Age --- where solidly molded thinking will control the future action of this community. The struggle must be unified into action to be successful.

In place of this selfish economic life, the people must be remolded in their thinking and create a new way of unselfish life, a new age of well being for all the people.

It is also a time for CANE to reconsider many of its ways. It is a time that CANE must expand its actions and thinking. It may perhaps be necessary to re-establish our preamble to cover wider areas of action. This is a time for all the people of Nihonmachi to retrospect, introspect themselves and the community and objectively to accomplish this need. This positive movement is only attained through self determination. This indeed is a true way of freedom, a sure guarantee of freedom of existence and everlasting shield of Nihonmachi. It is a critical time to realize that what "I" as an individual can do for the Nihonmachi community and not what others can do to us. We must create our own destiny. It is the will of the people and the people alone that will determine the course of life that Nihonmachi will lead.

Through creative action, the twisted value of life must be made to be realized by the majority of the community. The value of life should henceforth see that humanity as its common denominator and economic struggle are means toward realization of complete liberation of our world. The "shield of Nihonmachi" hence should be for the protection of all phases of Nihonmachi and the creation of that kind of Nihonmachi where it is not merely an existence that blindly believes and practices that everything can be solved by money alone. These forces that do not fear Nature, that do not fear Heaven, and do not fear the people must be wiped out altogether.

The true "Spirit of Righteousness" must be sought, educated, vindicated and prospective forces be directed toward the attainment of the right of all people to the right of self determination. It is our will to create and to pierce through to the realm of our true destiny. Let us unite to protect and create the destiny of our Nihonmachi community and fortify a new horizon of a new age to come.

CANE Committees

TENANT OUTREACH: Maintains consistent contact with residents and is trying to incorporate more residents.

NEWSLETTER: Provides internal information and analysis for CANE members on issues and events pertinent to CANE.

PUBLICITY: Writes general articles for newspapers, makes t.v. appearances, and goes to schools, churches and other community groups in the Japanese community.

ADMINISTRATION: Handles CANE events, fund-raisers, and internal organization.

LEGAL: Handles all legal matters for residents and small business people.

COORDINATING COMMITTEE: Representative body of residents and committees, the major decision making body in CANE.

DEVELOPING AD HOC COMMITTEES:

1) Washington D.C. Committee: Exploring the possibility of obtaining federal funds for low-cost housing in Nihonmachi.

2) JARF Support Committee: Actively assisting JARF Housing Committee; disseminate information about housing project and sign up interested persons.

3) Issei Memorial Community Center Support Committee: Working with board of directors of Issei Memorial Center to aid in the realization of the proposed community and cultural center.

General Information

CANE Address: 1858 Sutter St., S.F. Ca. 94115

Phone Number: 921-8841

Office Hours: 3 to 8 p.m. weekdays
10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays
Closed Sundays

Would You Like To Know More About CANE

* We can send a speaker from CANE to your organization, church, club or home to make a short presentation and answer any questions.

* We can show a slide show to your group about the effects of redevelopment on Nihonmachi, past and present.

* We can assist you in setting up a "house meeting" at your home. Call together a small group of your friends and relatives, and we will come to informally chat about our activities.

* We can sign you up for our CANE walking tour of Nihonmachi. Learn about our organization's principles and activities by directly examining the effects of redevelop= ment on our community.

* We can sign you up for our regular orientation meetings. We hold the meetings every few months to acquaint new CANE members with the internal structure of our organization and our unifying principles.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

* Join CANE. Our membership dues are $1 per year.

* Attend the CANE general meetings and make your views known --- we meet usually once a month, the last Friday of the month. Watch for announcements.

* Join one of our standing committees: Administration, Legal, Publicity, Newsletter, or Tenant Outreach.

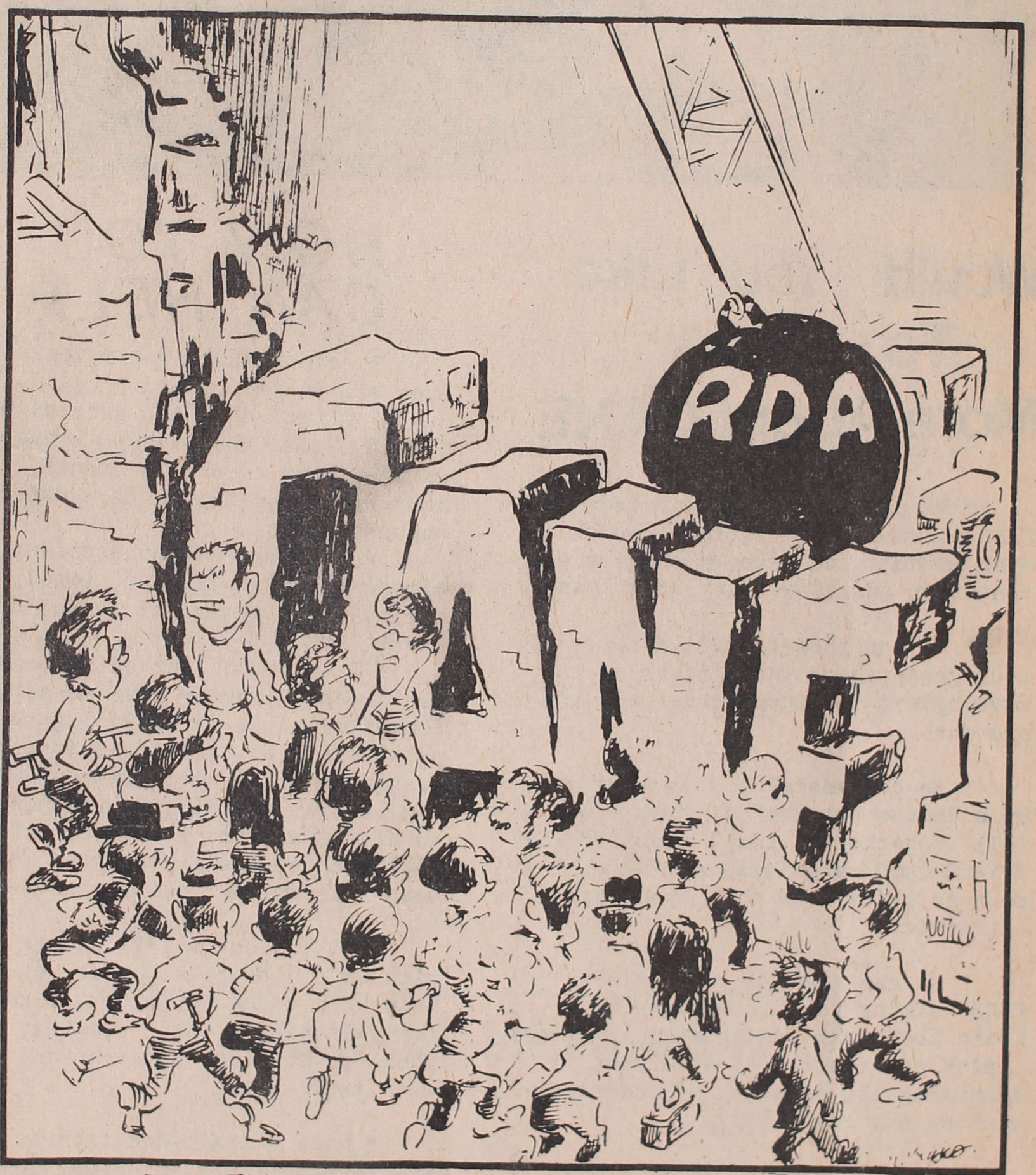
* Join one of our ad hoc committees. We presently have an ad hoc committee which is exploring the possibility of obtaining funds from Washington, D.C. for low-cost housing in Nihonmachi. In planning are ad hoc committees to support the JARF housing project and the Issei Memorial Community Center project.

* Share your skills and talents with CANE. We need people who can help with plumbing, roofing, carpentry, electrical work, cooking, telephoning, drawing, painting and much, much more.

* Make a small donation to CANE. We are a strictly volunteer community organization. We do not receive outside funding; we rely totally on our own fund-raising efforts and donations from our members and supporters.

COMMITTEE AGAINST NIHONMACHI EVICTION (CANE) PRINCIPLES

1. TO STOP THE DISPERSAL & DESTRUCTION OF NIHONMACHI & KEEP IT A SMALL-BUSINESS & RESIDENTIAL AREA.
2. TO UPHOLD THE RIGHTS OF RESIDENTS & SMALL BUSINESSES.



日本町強制立ち退き反對委員会の目標

▲日本町の擴散、及び破かいを食い止め、同時に日本町を中小商店と住宅地域にとどめおく。

▲住民、及び中小商店の權利を擁護する。