

## Commission-approach ideally suited for internment experience

SANTA MONICA, Ca. — Rep. Norman Mineta (D-Cal.) spoke here Dec. 1 on the educational role JACLers must assume for passage of S 1647 / HR 5499, the JACL-sponsored bills to establish a Commission on War-time Relocation and Internment of Civilians.

Besides knowing what the bill would do and no do (see Oct. 19 PC, text of bill), "we must be able to answer our critics on both sides of the issue," Mineta counseled and he proceeded to give a convincing account of why the commission approach was ideally suited to

the relocation-internment experience by pointing to accomplishments of other commissions in recent years. Mentioned were:

(1) The Kerner Commission on Urban Riots and Racism; (2) Eisenhower Committee on Violence; and (3) Scranton Commission on Campus Unrest.

"The Commission forces us to concentrate on the facts—what really happened and what were its real effect," Mineta said. "It undertakes a comprehensive study, pulls together all the knowledge never before assembled rather than second-hand accounts, inaccurate in-

formation and accepted myths."

The knowledge gained from the proposed commission, Mineta hopes, would guarantee that such tragedies as Evacuation and internment will never occur again.

Mineta was the main speak-

er at the Marina JACL's first installation dinner. He also installed the board led by Paul T. Suzuki, Esq. An overflow turnout of 220 attended the affair at

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## Federal ombudsman proposed for all Iranians

SAN FRANCISCO — As the highest ranking federal officials in California responsible for upholding the law, the four U.S. Attorneys in the state were asked this week (Nov. 26) for a federal ombudsman for all Iranian residents.

The request was jointly made by the Japanese American Citizens League, Chinese for Affirmative Action and the Mexican American Political Association through the offices of Public Advocates, Inc., and addressed to:

William Hunter, U.S. Attorney, Northern District; Andrea Ordin, U.S. Attorney, Central District; Herman Sillas, U.S. Attorney, East-

ern District; and Michael Walsh, U.S. Attorney, Southern District.

The U.S. Attorneys were also asked to:

1—Hold a joint meeting with minority groups within the week. (One was being scheduled for Dec. 3—Ed.)

2—Take a strong public position on behalf of "due process" and fair play for all persons within our borders.

The ombudsman for all Iranians (visitor or citizen) would be expected to insure equal treatment at the hands of immigration and other governmental agencies. "Increasing discriminatory treatment of Americans of Iranian descent, as well as Iranian students, does not speak well for our

democratic principles and our upholding of the law," the U.S. attorneys were reminded. It may be lead to the deplorable treatment accorded Japanese Americans during WW2, the three organizations added.

At JACL Headquarters, national executive director Karl Nobuyuki was responding to media around the country following the JACL letter (Nov. 15 PC) to President Carter deploring the mob actions after the U.S. Embassy in Tehran was occupied by Iranians.

Nobuyuki spoke with:

Alan Moore, WKAT-TV, Miami, Fla.; Mel Young, KXXO-TV, Tulsa, Okla.; RKO-General/Mutual (radio), New York; KFRC and KCBS (radio), San Francisco.

## Stockton JACL president raps city council call for confinement

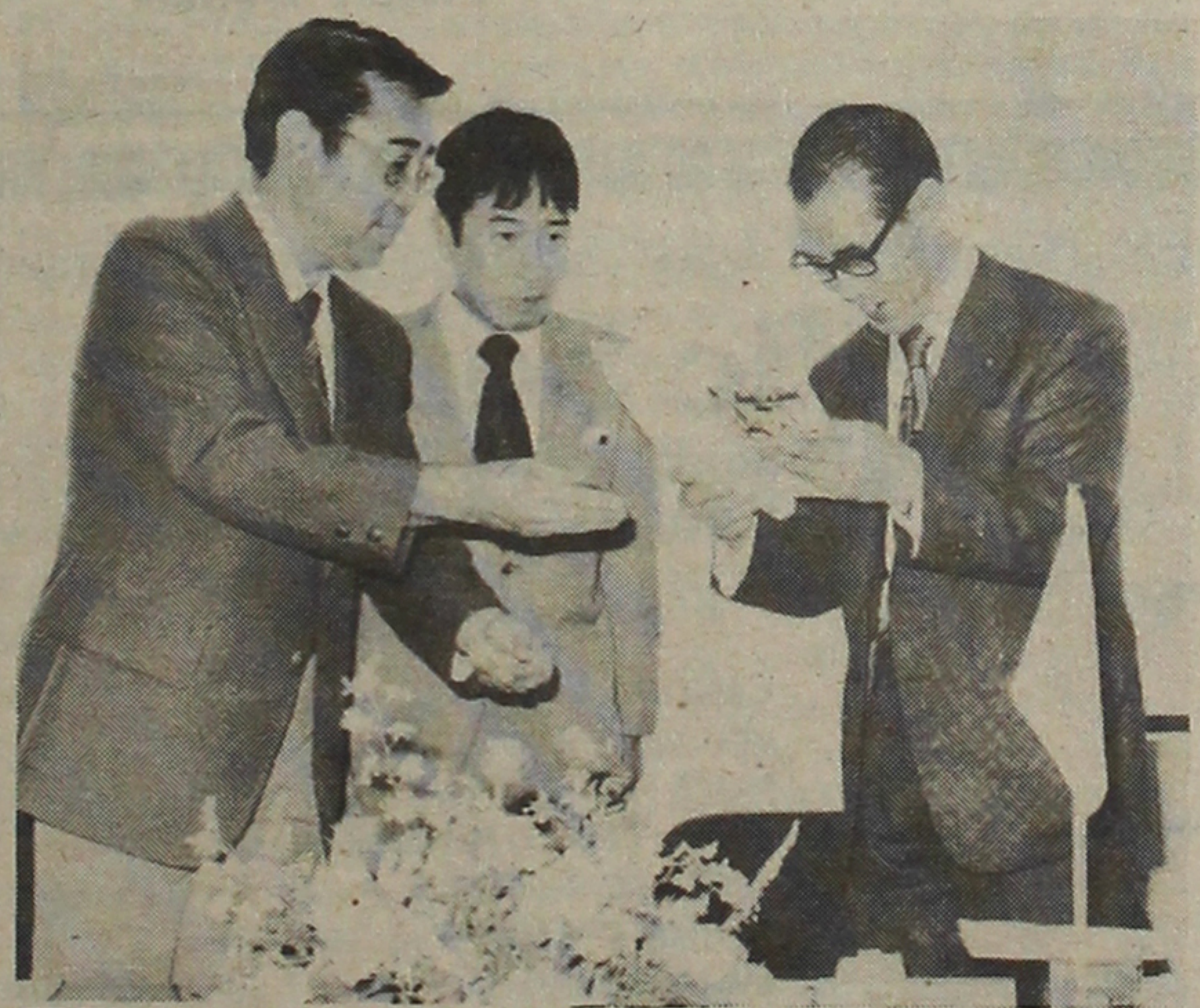
STOCKTON, Ca. — The JACL was instrumental in gaining the law which prevents the President or Congress from interning any citizen on assumption alone.

This fact was noted by George Baba, Stockton JACL president as Stockton area educators, religious leaders and others sharply criticized the Stockton city council for its 6-3 vote on Nov. 13 to send a letter to President Carter urging "confinement" of the 50,000 Iranian students in this country.

The JACL sought the law "because we went through that experience without any trial, just on the basis of being Japanese," Baba said.

He declined to comment directly on the council action because his chapter board had not met on the matter.

The council's letter also called for immediate halt to all trade with Iran and military action "if necessary to secure the release of hostages.



**FREMONT-FUKAYA SISTER CITIES**—Dr. Walter Hashimoto (left), 1979 Fremont JACL president visiting Japan, presents letter from his hometown mayor Gene Rhodes to Chuji Koizumi (right), mayor of Fukaya, Saitama-ken, to establish Sister City affiliation. Takezo Ohata (c), radio amateur in Saitama, was instrumental in facilitating the contact with a Nisei ham operator, Tats Tajima, in Fremont. JACLers Aileen Tsujimoto, George Kato and Hashimoto are on the Fremont sister city committee.

**Covering the San Francisco** scene for the Washington Post Nov. 23, correspondent Paul Grabowicz related comments of Yori Wada, University of California regent; Dr. Yosh Nakashima, city planning commissioner and dentist; Steve Doi, attorney; and Nobuyuki.

Wada called upon UC administrators to protect Iranian students from harassment by immigration officials and fellow students.

Nakashima was troubled by the outcry against Iranians in the U.S., which has prompted concern that President Carter might issue a directive similar to the WW2 evacuation order, EO 9066, which President Ford had rescinded in 1976. People then said it was to make sure that what happened to Japanese Americans won't happen again. "The first thing that came to mind (in the current crisis) is that it's happening all over...

"Just because you're Iranian, it's automatically assumed you're sympathetic with the Iranian government," Nakashima said. "Guilt by association or guilt by race... is not what this country is based on."

Doi remembers the dirty looks he got from his eighth grade classmates after Pearl Harbor was bombed. "The sort of hatred toward Iranians, whether U.S. citizen or not, whether pro-Shah or anti-Shah, is very similar to the feelings against Japanese Americans then. People didn't care who you were or what you felt. I know exactly how

### Civiletti's stand toward Iranians endorsed

SAN FRANCISCO—Words of U.S. Attorney General Benjamin Civiletti regarding U.S. policy toward persons of Iranian ancestry in the nation stated Nov. 28 was immediately applauded and endorsed by National JACL.

With anti-American provocations by some Iranians in the U.S. ending in ugly episodes, Civiletti said:

"We must restrain our actions and behave with a con-

### Work on Walerga Camp park starts

SACRAMENTO, Ca. — Construction is scheduled to start this month to convert a corner of what was once the Walerga Assembly Center in 1942 to a park in the northern part of the city at the eastside of I-80 and Palm Ave.

A Day of Remembrance program was observed here last Feb. 19 and it is expected the event would be held annually. Donations, tax-deductible, for Walerga Park should be sent to:

Walerga Park Development Project, c/o Sunrise Recreation Park District, 7801 Auburn Blvd., Citrus Heights, Ca 95610. #

sidered regard for our rule of law." Noncitizens as well as citizens are protected by U.S. laws against discrimination on the basis of national origin, he reminded. Any infringement of civil liberties would be promptly investigated and prosecuted.

National JACL executive director Karl Nobuyuki said:

"The Attorney General has shown a caliber of leadership which exemplifies the American tradition of human rights and civil liberties guaranteed by due process of law. This action may help enhance the confidence of Americans in our government as an international leader, in contrast to the government of Iran which has shown blatant disregard for the universal tenets of human and legal rights."

(JACL was one of the first non-governmental organizations to condemn the Iranian assault of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran and mob violence that occurred subsequently in the U.S.)

"While sympathizing with justifiable outrage felt by all Americans, JACL cautioned that abridgement of constitutional law would create the risk of repeating the events of World War II, when Americans of Japanese ancestry, regardless of personal conduct, were confined in American concentration camps for the duration of the war," Nobuyuki concluded.

### Japan's artificial blood saves life

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. — Experimental use of Fluosol, artificial blood under research the past years in Japan, was credited this past week (Nov. 20) for saving the life of a man, 67-year-old who lapsed into anemia following surgery at the University of Minnesota Hospital.

Because his religion (Jehovah's Witnesses) prohibits blood exchanges, the Japanese product was administered three weeks ago and he remains in a stable condition, after the Food & Drug Administration gave Dr. Robert Anderson, a cardiovascular surgeon, permission to give 2.9 liters to the patient.

Fluosol can be used as a universal substitute, regardless of a person's blood type, according to U.S. developers and promoters of the product, which is produced by Dr. Ryoichi Naito of the (Japan) Green Cross. #

### Mayor Fasi strident over Iranian crisis

HONOLULU—Mayor Frank Fasi's emotional speech before the flag-bedecked convention of the Asian People's Anti-Communist League here Nov. 21 called for the U.S. to hold Iranian diplomatic officials and 5,000 Iranian students as hostages, then immediately deport 45,000 other Iranian students in response to the crisis in Tehran.

The policy toward Iran should be "an eye for an eye, a limb for a limb and a tooth for a tooth," Fasi said.

"We should tell the Ayatollah to release the hostages, or 45,000 Iranian students will be deported immediately. It is time for the American people through their President to tell Khomeini and rest of the Communist world that we have had it. Enough is enough!" he concluded.

### 24 Japanese aboard jet crash in So. Pole

AUCKLAND, New Zealand—Air New Zealand's sightseeing jet flight to Antarctica, which crashed Nov. 28 into Mt. Erebus killing all 257 persons aboard, included 24 tourists from Japan, it was announced here.

Ironically, 50 years earlier (Nov. 29, 1929), U.S. Admiral Richard Byrd and two companions flew over the South Pole in a tri-motor monoplane from their Little America base.

### 1979 Holiday Issue Boxscore

(We are waiting to hear from all the chapters which supported the Holiday Issue last year. Those untallied can expect an inquiry from us.—Ed.)

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Diablo Vly	9	San Mateo	6
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East LA	210	Selamco	56
Eden Twnshp	114	Solano Cty	
Fowler		Sonoma Cty	15
French Camp	9	Stockton	168
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Hoosier	6	Venice-Culver	
Liv-Merced	168	Wash, DC	
Marysville		Watsonville	180
Mile-Hi	3/2	CCDC	6
Milwaukee		Eastern DC	
Monterey	168	Intermountain	4
Mt Olympus		MDC	8
New Mexico	6	NC-WNDC	20
New York	2	PNWDC	5
Omaha	8	PSWDC	10
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ONE LINERS			
52 Boise Vly		Portland	
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Gresh-Trtdl	27	Sonoma Cty	
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Milwaukee	11	Tulare County	
Mt Olympus	30	Twin Cities	
31 Omaha		Venice-Culver	
Pasadena		Wash, D.C.	
Philadelphia	24	West Valley	
Placer County	32	White River	

DEC. 1 TOTALS: 397

**JACL/HOLIDAY ISSUE PROJECT**  
 9 Hagiwara Fnd 1 Okubo-Yamada  
 1 Satow Fnd 1 Educ Endowm't



## School trustee ends respected career of 22 years

LIVINGSTON, Ca. — Sherman Kishi has his Wednesday nights free now after completing 22 years as a school trustee. He did not seek re-election this fall to the Merced Union High School district board, representing Livingston for the past 12 years. Prior to that, he

was a Livingston Union School District trustee for 10 years.

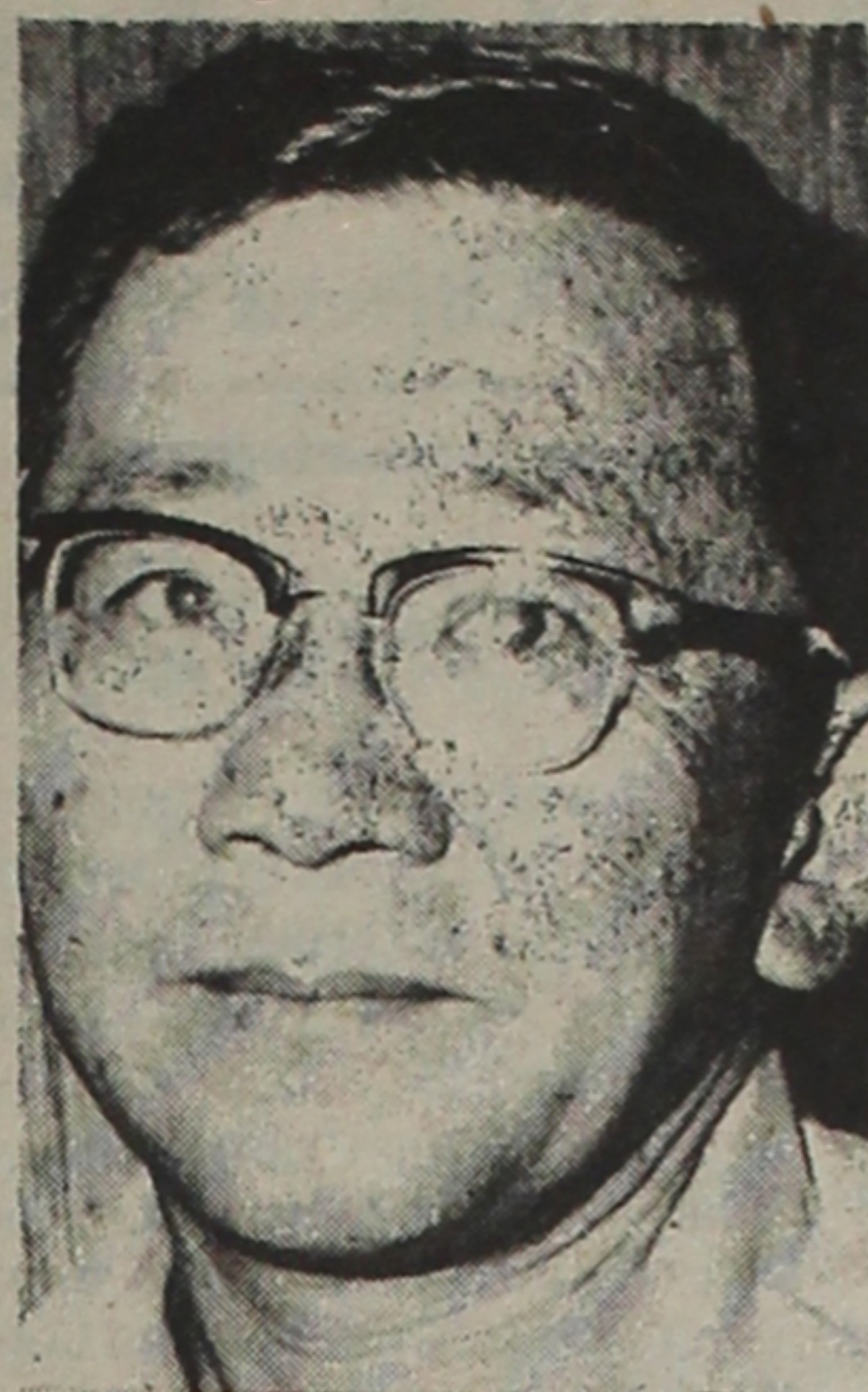
But Kishi laughingly admits there is no problem taking up the Wednesday night slack. (The board sessions were held twice a month on Wednesdays, plus visits with teachers and other meetings.) He belongs to

the local Rotary Club, JACL, Livingston Farmers Assn., Cling Peach Advisory Board, Canning Peach Assn., and concedes he will have enough to do.

Kishi, who is 54, finished UC Berkeley in 1951 after a stint in the Army combat intelligence in the Philippines and in Occupied Japan. He and his brother, Fred (also a school trustee), had graduated from high school at Camp Amache, where their family had been interned during WW2.

What had upset him the most about his role as trustee are state-level mandates, the collective bargaining law which turns teacher salary negotiations into an adversary situation. "It's a lousy game," Kishi said. He always held that teachers are the most vital part in education and unless they are well paid, they cannot do their job adequately. In the long run here, teachers are not well-off, he lamented.

One of the biggest issues he faced at Merced Union High as a trustee came in the racial conflicts on campus in the spring of 1973. He also feels the district today has a good start to its affirmative action program and is getting a fair balance of ethnic minorities



Sherman Kishi

among district employees.

Trustee Kishi attended his final school board session Nov. 14. "One thing over the years you learn is that when you go to conferences and talk with other educators that your problems and district are not unique. Most school systems have the same or similar problems," he told the Merced Sun-Star reporter before the meeting.

Kishi is proud of his district, a five-campus system with buildings in excellent shape (meeting the new earthquake codes), and graduates able to compete with any other district graduates (as the percentage of college students and achievements indicate).

## Radio Li'l Tokyo's Dec. 24 dance set

LOS ANGELES — Radio Li'l Tokyo's 27th anniversary ball Dec. 24, 8:30-1 a.m., at the L.A. Hilton will feature Manny Harmon's orchestra with vocalist Carole Dulaine, it was announced by Matao Uwate, producer-announcer of the Japanese language radio show.

Disco music will be played for 15 minutes every hour. Door prizes will be given away at midnight. Tickets are \$10 per person. For reservations, call: Matao Uwate, 110 N. San Pedro St., Los Angeles, Ca 90012 (213) 628.4688.

To generalize is to be an idiot. —WILLIAM BLAKE

## New Santa Maria Minami community center opens

SANTA MARIA, Ca. — The long-awaited Minami Community Center was dedicated Sept. 15 and became a part of the city's recreational program, a home to everything from ballet to basketball. Rep. Robert Lagomarsino was on hand at the dedication.

The \$1.2 million center with some 24,000 sq. feet was named for the late Yaemon Minami, patriarch of the Minami family which had donated \$205,000 to help make the building a reality. The Minami family made the initial contribution of \$100,000 in 1971.

The multi-use center is located at Adam Park, east of Depot St. and south of W. Stowell Rd.

None of the costs for the new

center came from city tax funds, according to the city recreation and parks director. Bulk of the building funds came through federal public works project funds. Park also has other recreational facilities, baseball diamonds, courts and children's play area.

Minami Center includes a gym, locker rooms, a mirrored room for dance instruction, arts & craft room, weight training room and a kitchen. Youth and adult programs abound.

A contingent of Japanese consular, civic and business leaders led by Wataru Miyakawa, consul general; and Fred Wada, sportsman, also attended the dedication. #

## JACL briefed on White House Conference on Families

WASHINGTON — A White House Conference on Families designed to promote a nationwide discussion on U.S. families, is encouraging national organizations, such as JACL, to become involved in the new program just proclaimed by President Carter.

Ron Ikejiri, Washington JACL Representative, recently attended a White House briefing called by the national advisory committee to the Conference on Families.

The Committee strongly affirmed the importance of involving national organiza-

tions such as JACL in the WHCF and discussed specific ways in which organizations and their members could participate in Conference activities, including:

Sponsoring JACL activities in conjunction with the White House Conference on Families; testifying at national hearings to be held across the country this fall; encouraging JACLers to participate in state and local activities, and state conferences; and submitting recommendations on issues which will be compiled and distributed to delegates to the White House conference.

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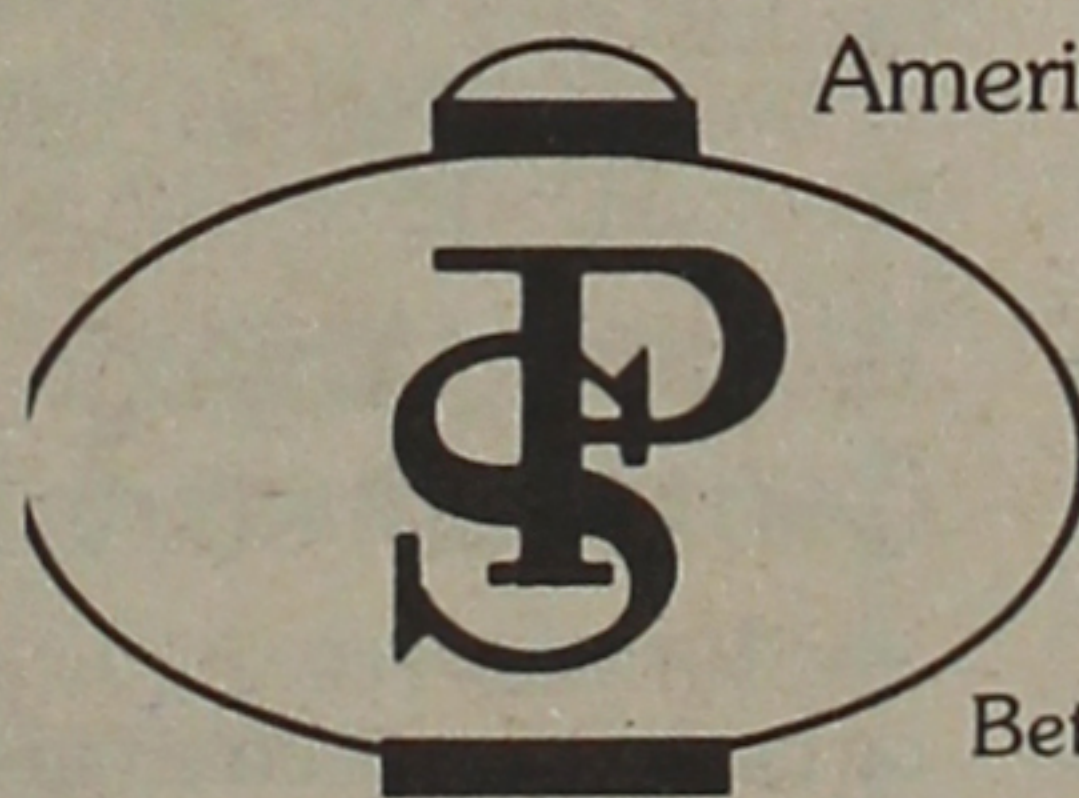
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### Los Angeles

**Tourists from Japan** were being flown back to serve as key witnesses identifying two female suspects who have been robbing guests at the New Otani Hotel in Little Tokyo for several months, it was announced by Officer Mitch Kato of the LAPD Asian Task Force.

A bilingual Santa Clause holds court in Japanese Village Plaza in Little Tokyo daily till Dec. 24. Instead of reindeer and sleigh, he arrived on a "mikoshi" transported by 20 shop-workers the day after Thanksgiving.

**Friends of Little Tokyo Bookmobile** is on a fund-raising project in lieu of the annual book fair. A booth has been set up at the Japanese Village Plaza for the project.

**Nihon Geijutsu Shudan** (Japanese Artists Assn.), Los Angeles, which recently elected Yajuro Kineya IX, president, will hold a benefit dinner Dec. 16 at the New Otani Hotel for the community and cultural center, it was announced by Matao Uwate, club secretary.

**Friends of Little Tokyo Arts (FOLTA)** is conducting a continuous two-week silent auction for pieces being donated by more than 60 participating Nikkei artists at the Shinno Art Gallery, 5820 Wilshire Blvd., ending Saturday, Dec. 15, 5 p.m. Proceeds will go toward commissioning art work at the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, now scheduled to open Jan. 2.

### San Francisco

**Kimochi-kai's** second annual New Year's Eve benefit show-dance at Japan Center Theater, Dec. 31, 9 p.m.-2 a.m., will feature two bands, special guests and other talent with Steve Nakajo chairman. Nichibei Kai and the Japanese Community Cultural Center of No. Calif. are co-sponsors of the \$25 per couple event.

**The Salvation Army** building complex at Laguna and Geary is up for sale for \$3.15 million, according to Colonial Realty for John Foggy, owner since 1977. When it was first put up for sale four years ago, the Nihonmachi community objected because it has reportedly contributed \$61,000 toward the \$90,000 construction cost in 1937 and felt the structure in a moral sense belonged to the Nikkei community as a social service facility. With Evacuation, the building became a Salvation Army training center and was later expanded to a complex of four buildings. It was vacated in 1975 and subsequently sold to Foggy.

### Hawaii

**Responding to charges** by former Crime Commission chairman Nelson Doi, that neither Honolulu Mayor Fasi nor Governor Ariyoshi are committed to fighting crime, city managing director Ed Hirata declared its 33% increase in police manpower over the past five years is "an excellent example", while population has only increased 15% in the past decade. Hirata added public comments like Doi's "aren't going to bring us closer to the solution. What is required is a cooperative effort on the part of every law-abiding citizen, and every public and private agency in this state."

**"Hawaii: the Royal Islands"**, consisting of some 300 artifacts from the Bishop Museum, will start a three-year tour through seven Mainland cities: Chicago, Denver, Los Angeles, Seattle, San Francisco, Boston and New York.

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News or opinions expressed by columnists, except JACL staff writers, do not necessarily reflect the JACL policy.

## Rep. Lowry introduces bill for direct-redress

WASHINGTON—Rep. Mike Lowry (D-Wa.) Nov. 28 introduced legislation to provide direct financial redress to Japanese Americans interned during World War II. But he conceded the bill has little chance of passage this year.

Titled the World War II Japanese American Human Rights Violation Redress Act, it would direct:

1—The Justice Department to locate all Japanese Americans who were interned, detained or forcibly relocated by the government.

2—Then determine how long they were interned.

3—And to make a redress payment of \$15,000 plus \$15 per day of internment.

"The serious abuse of gov-

ernmental power that caused the unfair imprisonment of 110,000 Americans must be condemned in the strongest possible manner," Lowry said. "We must clearly admit our mistakes and made redress to the people who were harmed. "...The realization that a

great injustice was committed has just grown in this country during the last ten years. The political climate is not yet ready for direct redress, but more people are realizing the importance of this issue. It will be about a four year process to passage of the bill."

## REDRESS

Continued from Front Page

the Sheraton-Miramar. Ron Ikejiri, Washington JACL representative; Karl Nobuyuki, national executive director, also spoke, while Suzuki was emcee. The Rev. David Unoura rendered the invocation and benediction.



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26	9		
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18	April 9	August 2	29
20	11	5	31
<b>Box 2</b>	22	7	
25	20		
April 15	May 16	September 20	October 17
17	18	23	19
19	21	25	22
<b>Box 3</b>	22	27	24
May 13	June 13	October 2	November 5
15	15	4	7
17	18	7	9
<b>Box 4</b>	20	9	
22	22		
June 21	August 17	November 11	December 7
24	20	13	10
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## Church groups back U.S. hibakusha bills

SAN FRANCISCO—The Committee for East Asia and the Pacific of the National Council of Churches of Christ, Inc., New York, voted support of two bills (HR 1129, HR 1924) to provide medical assistance to A-bomb survivors in the U.S., following receipt of a JACL/Committee

for Atomic Bomb Survivors booklet.

Similar support was recorded in early September by the same council's Committee on Ecumenical Issues on Japan. Full support of governing board of the national council was expected. #

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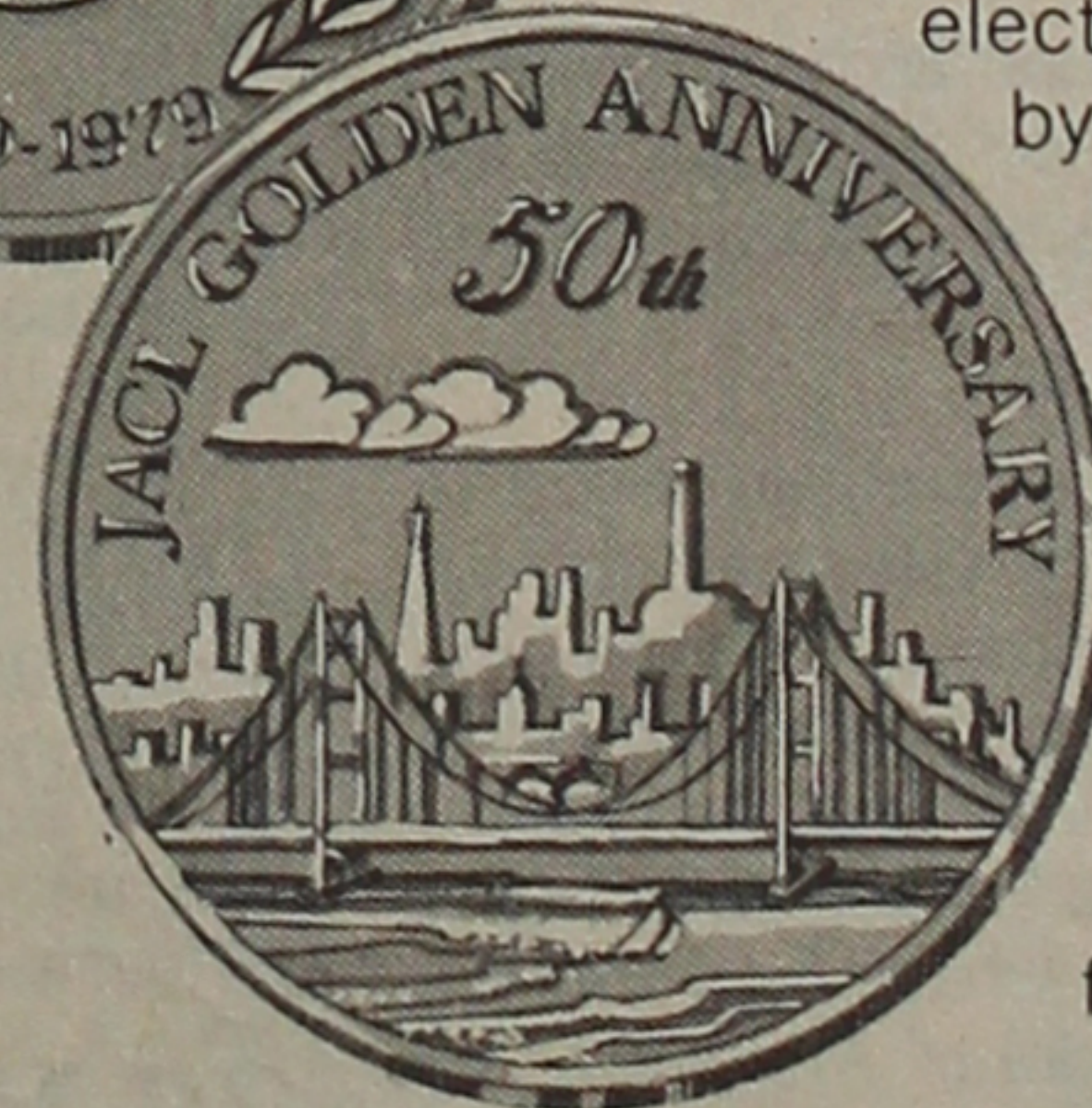
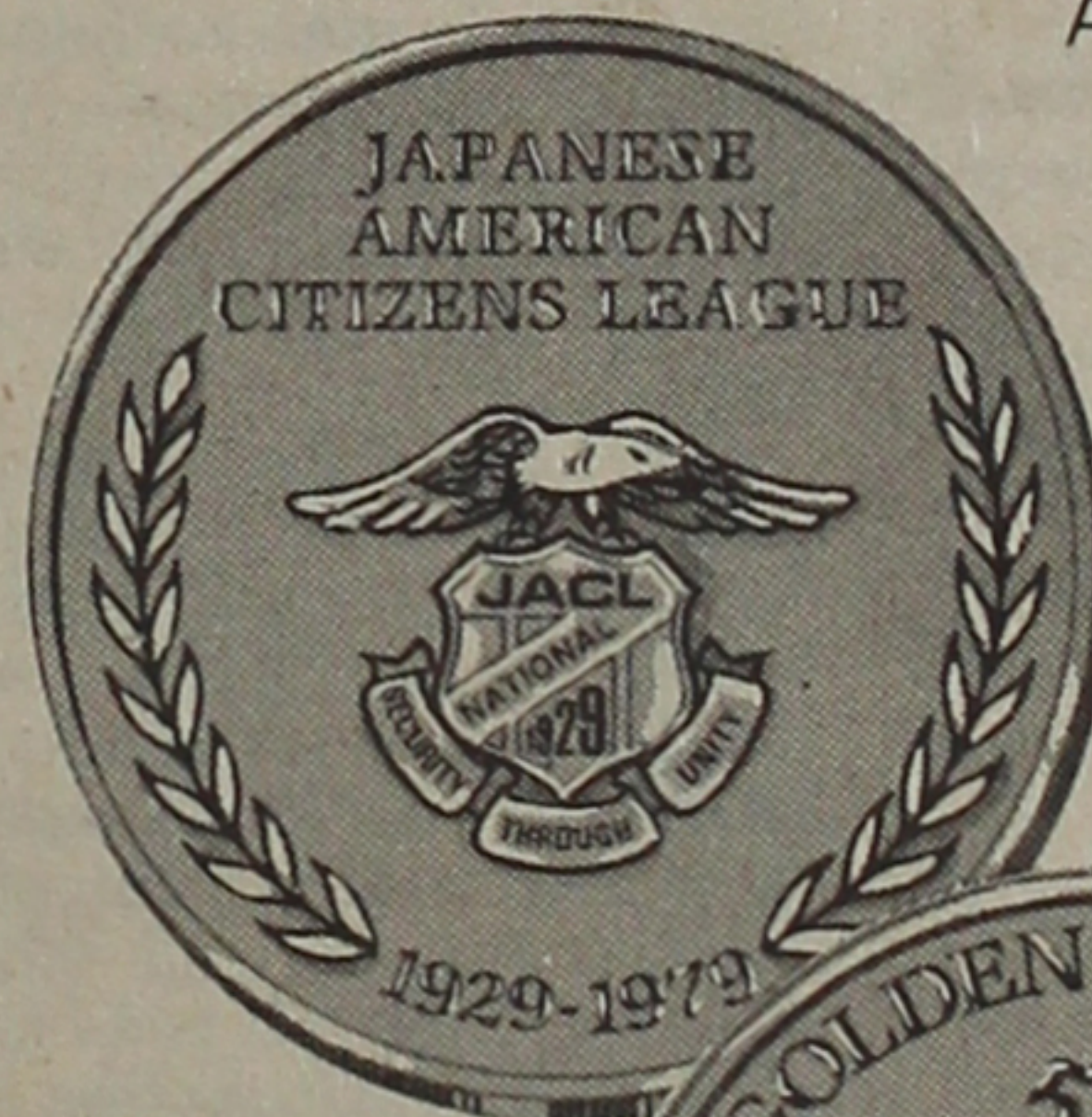
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PRESIDENT'S CORNER: Clifford Uyeda

## Mindguards

If we count all the hours we spend attending meetings, they are staggering. What is more important is what was accomplished. Were they wise decisions?

Group discussions are too often irrelevant and sterile, due to the wish to be non-controversial. On the other hand, mere vociferous challenges hurled at random often do more to confuse than clarify.

Too often one is tempted to caution, "I wish you would put your smoking gun back in its holster and think harder."

We're constantly under pressure to make instant decisions when emotions are running high. Most people make decisions by listening to their emotions, not their intellect. This is a cold fact that cannot be dismissed.

A role of devil's advocate is invaluable at meetings. He functions like a good lawyer who challenges the testimony of those who advocate the majority position.

If we are all in complete agreement on a decision, maybe it is time to postpone further discussion to give ourselves time to develop disagreements and perhaps gain some understanding of what the decision is all about.

Just as bodyguards protect us from physical harm, mindguards protect us from thoughts that might damage our confidence in the soundness of the policies we are about to launch.

We need to get away from the notion that disagreement is disloyalty to a group or an organization. Without these mindguards our thinking process is in danger from selfdeceit.



YE EDITOR'S DESK: Harry Honda

## Dec. 7 Daze

THE NISEI GENERATION (its median age being 55) remembers vividly that Sunday morning of Dec. 7, 1941. The hysteria and fear that followed make up what Michi Weglyn regards as the *Years of Infamy*: World War II,

the mass detention of Americans because of their racial origin, the test cases in the U.S. Supreme Court which ruled the Evacuation was constitutional because of military necessity.

Subsequently, some Japanese Americans were compensated for loss of property due to Evacuation. (Some hold Evacuation was a denial of the right to assemble—or rather the abuse of the right to assemble, since people were concentrated into a number of camps in isolated areas.) Then JACL minds wondered how might the Yasui, Hirabayashi and Korematsu decisions could be nullified. Some concluded it would take a national emergency (heaven forbid!) and the President ordering another Evacuation to test the decisions. With recourse through the courts hopeless, JACL turned to the Executive branch and succeeded in having Executive Order 9066 rescinded three years ago, to the Legislative branch to have the Emergency Detention Act (Title II of the 1950 Internal Security Act) repealed about a decade ago.

Then to compensate for loss or denial of civil rights because of the concentration camp experience, JACL launched a redress campaign—which has since been manifested in two similar bills (S 1647 and HR 5499) in the current Congress to establish a presidential commission of 15 members to (1) determine whether EO 9066 was justified as a military necessity, (2) to examine whether internment was necessary to protect evacuees against wartime hysteria, and (3) to determine whether or not as a result of EO 9066 remedies might be recommended for any wrongs committed.

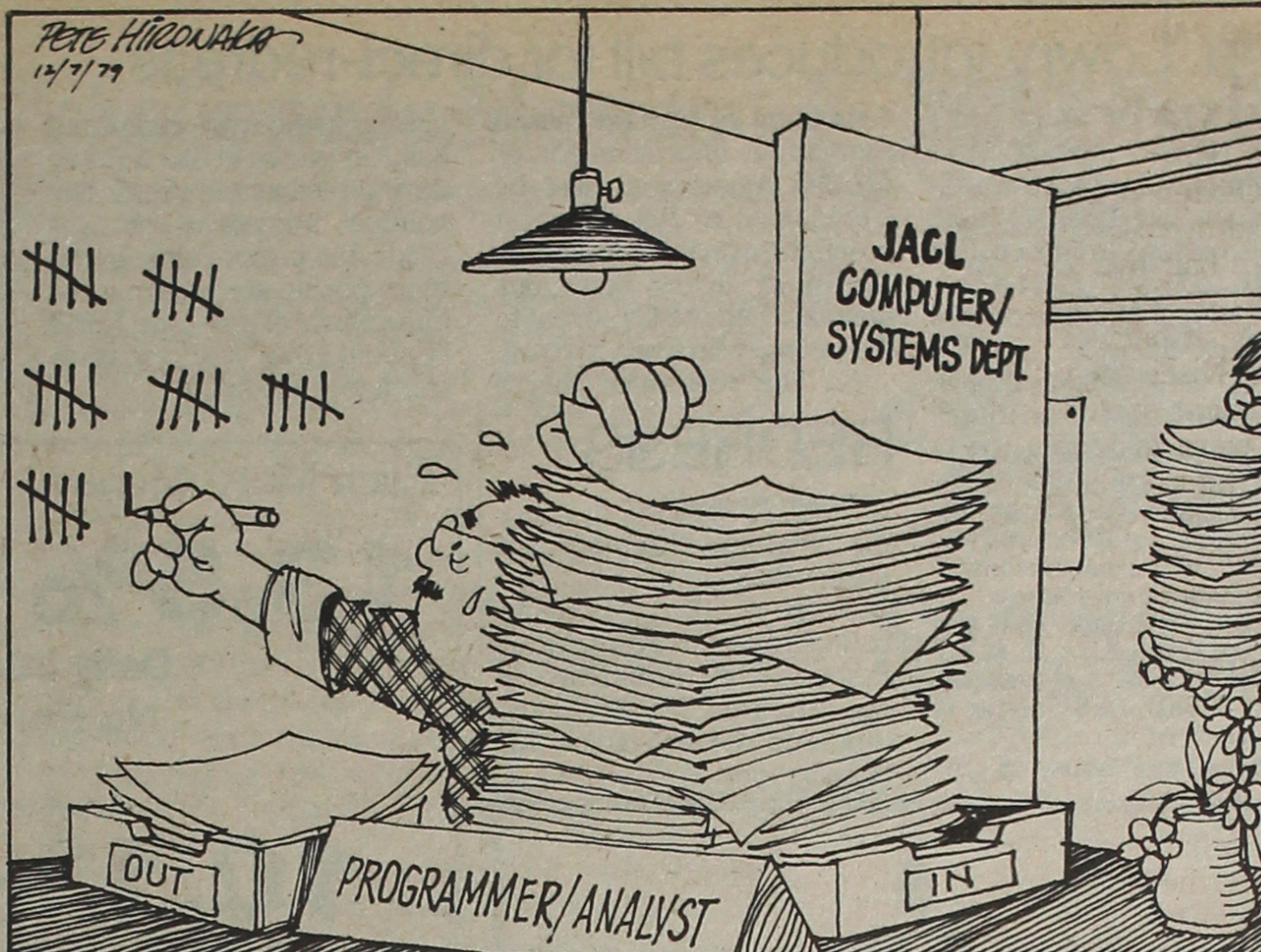
A Seattle constituency this past week had its congressman introduce their direct redress bill. JACLers will recognize the difference, but many are about to be confused—which is no way to treat the people who are to be helped.

WHAT IS HAPPENING in Iran—with constant references to how the U.S. government handled Japanese Americans during WW2—has dramatized the sad fact that Americans give in to baser instincts. (That's shows Americans are human after all.) It was hard to believe, for instance, what one Iranian student said that even "Japanese girls" in his class had called him "pig"—which is tragic in more ways than one. But what is heartening to see are the many expressions and the cool of Americans not letting the outrages in Tehran blind them from recognizing the rights of Iranians in the United States.

The young staffers at JACL Headquarters, Washington and regional offices have been on top of the Iranian crisis, commenting responsibly through the media. We don't think national president Dr. Clifford Uyeda was being consulted these past several weeks since he has been visiting China with other JACLers on a tour scheduled to return Dec. 6.

If Pearl Harbor caused the turnover of community leadership from the Issei to the Nisei, it may well be the current Iranian crisis will see the Sansei begin to take command.

ONE MORE NOTE: Our daughter Patricia gives us the best reason to "celebrate" Dec. 7. It's her birthday. I wonder how many Nisei parents who remember Pearl Harbor have a child born this same date? Celebrating a birthday and not the disaster this date shows how powerful time is—effervescing and healing.



## Useful function of S 1649/HR 5499

(San Jose Mercury)  
(October 11, 1979)

President Franklin D. Roosevelt called Dec. 7, 1941, the day the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, "a date which will live in infamy."

Today, a great many Japanese-Americans think that description fits Feb. 19, 1942, as well. They have a valid point.

On Feb. 19, 1942, the president issued Executive Order 9066 which authorized the internment of all persons of Japanese ancestry living on the Pacific Coast. The order produced America's first concentration camps, which alumni are now pressing Congress for redress.

Legislation co-authored by 118 members of the Senate and House of Representatives would set up a 15-member fact-finding panel charged with determining whether the wartime internment of Japanese Americans was necessary, and, if it wasn't, what sort of redress would be proper.

The commission proposal is sensible in its own right. It is, in addition, a compromise aimed at reunifying the Japanese-American community. The redress-reparations issue has divided Japanese-Americans into two antagonistic camps in recent months. One segment believes Congress should pay a \$25,000 indemnity to every Japanese-American who spent the war years behind barbed wire; the other camp opposes reparations as needlessly divisive. It fears pressing the point will stir up old anti-Japanese sentiments.

A fact-finding commission would serve a highly useful function now, 37 years after the fact. Nearly two generations of Americans have come to maturity since Executive Order 9066 was promulgated; their understanding of what happened then, and why, is sketchy at best. It is a chapter of American history that needs to be understood thoroughly so that it is never repeated. In brief, this is what happened. Two months after Pearl Harbor, the army determined—that all persons of Japanese ancestry living on the Pacific Coast constituted a potential threat to national security. The Army insisted it was impossible to

differentiate between loyal and disloyal Japanese-Americans and therefore all of them should be gathered up and moved away from coastal areas. And they were.

In all, 110,000 persons of Japanese ancestry were uprooted from their homes in California, Oregon and Washington and confined in 10 relocation centers in the interior of the country. Two-thirds of these were American citizens against which no charge, civil or criminal, had been brought. Of the 110,000 total, 93,000 were Californians—including Norman Mineta, now a Democratic member of the House from San Jose.

The 10 relocation centers were operated by the War Relocation Authority and held American citizens almost exclusively. They were separate from the four internment camps in which the

Department of Justice penned up enemy aliens, mostly Germans and Italians.

Not that the United States was alone in suspending civil rights. The Canadians rounded up their 23,000 Japanese ancestry residents a month before the United States did, and kept their internees locked up longer. The last Japanese-Canadian didn't get back to British Columbia until 1949.

Persons of Japanese ancestry living in Mexico, Central and South America, Haiti and the Dominican Republic were also rounded up and interned—many of them in camps in the United States.

All things considered, a special congressional commission could perform a useful educational function in this field. Too little is remembered about it today.

## J Japan U.S. Friendship Commission

By CHUCK KUBOKAWA  
(JACL International Relations Committee)

Palo Alto, Ca.

Some negative points regarding JACL efforts to have Nisei named to the U.S.-Japan Friendship Commission were noted in Bill Hosokawa's column, "Translation Service Center's role" (Oct. 26 PC). Here are some positive counter-points for consideration.

Japan has its own Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission as a counterpart to ours. Why then do we need a Japanese national on our commission?

The point to which the JACL-IRC (International Relations Committee) is addressing is trying to open up the Commission's involvement to concerns other than art, history, theater, literature, etc., at the highest academic level.

JACL wants people-to-people understanding and experiential exchange represented on the commission, allowing for grass roots input at the commission level to improve U.S.-Japan relations.

One wonders about the usefulness of English translations of current Japanese thought provided by the Translation Service Center since the CIA probably translates such articles on a daily basis to keep up their intelligence data, and perhaps available through "Freedom of Information Act."

turn of evacuees.

Dec. 3—West Coast attitudes toward Japanese Americans improved, JACL Convention at Salt Lake City told; JACL opens membership to all Americans, irrespective of race.

Dec. 4—Anonymous threats made upon Portland Council of Churches leader (Dr. H. J. Maulbetsch) for signing resolution calling for constitutional treatment of Japanese Americans and to aid WRA program to return Nisei to Pacific Northwest.

Dec. 8—ACLU director Roger Baldwin urges naturalization for Issei at Bill of Rights event in Utah

The TSC work, hence, can be a waste of JAFU money.

Academic scholars at the highest level who sit as commission members in U.S. and in Japan are well represented to maintain dialogue—but where were they when the anti-whaling campaign took place? It took people like Dr. Clifford Uyeda, Dr. Harry Hata-saka and others to tackle the problem on the sidewalks and at various organizational levels.

Where were the commission members who are supposed to keep tabs on U.S.-Japan relations and doing something about it when all the cartoons and caricatures were published nationwide about Japan dumping steel, electronic goods, cars, etc., in U.S.? JACL fought it head-on with people like our National Executive Director Karl Nobuyuki, regional director George Kondo, vice president Floyd Shimomura and others, providing written complaints to the media.

What were the commission members doing when Kenzo continued to put "Jap" labels on the clothes he made? It took people like Ozzie Imai in Lodi to help set the record straight and George Kodama in the Pacific Southwest to organize a committee to carry the campaign in front of the fashion stores.

Furthermore, what are the commission members doing to learn about anti-Japanese sentiment as conveyed when racial epithets are hurled? Two recent examples were noted at the Nova Academy in nearby Belmont and at Hollister High School. Perpetrators of anti-Japanese racism there had to be confronted on the spot.

JACL is not saying our ethnic heritage, ability to speak a little Japanese or knowing more than the learned commissioners entitles the Nikkei to be a part of that group. What we are saying is that there are many Nikkei points of view, attitudes, feelings and non-

## COMMENTS & LETTERS

### J PC's 50th Anniversary

(Of all the letters shed our way on the occasion of PC's 50th anniversary, this one best symbolizes the thoughts of many—but this particular one bares the essence of JACL most keenly.—HH.)

Dear Harry:

My congratulations on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Pacific Citizen—Saburo's baby. He felt the organization had to have its own printed message.

It was a struggle to keep it alive in the beginning. As it grew, the Pacific Citizen has been most fortunate in its editors who have always maintained the organization's principles in lucid presentations.

MINE KIDO  
San Francisco

### J 'China Girl'

Editor:

Noriko Sawada Bridges (Nov. 16 PC) describes her anguish at being repeatedly called "China girl" by two young boys while she was in Sonoma. The article implies, although it is not clear how the conclusion was reached, that the boys learned the phrase from viewing the "China Girl" episode on ABC-TV's *How The West Was Won* series. This experience angered Ms. Bridges because, among other things, it associated her with a "debased Chinese girl".

It is unfortunate Ms. Bridges did not learn in detail why the Asian American communities were protesting John Mantley's pathetic production last spring. She would have discovered that the "debased Chinese girl" was given a tragic initiation to American society when she was raped by a white seaman during the ocean voyage transporting her family and other Chinese workers from China to the United States.

There is no question that Asian Americans must condemn corporations for sponsoring racist programming like "China Girl". In our responses, however, we must also assure we have all the facts at hand so we do not unwittingly pit one group against another. When it comes to racist and sexist portrayals, the white-dominated media seldom makes a distinction between Asian Americans.

EMORY M. LEE  
Palo Alto, Ca.

verbal communication links which can contribute much to the aims of the Friendship Commission.

I feel in many ways the Nisei have the best of two worlds and in many cases a resource that has not received an opportunity to perform—except when a crisis demands, such as the deployment of Nisei during the war in Europe to help maintain security within the American sectors and prevent enemy infiltration; and in the Pacific to help in combat intelligence. But when everything is going right and the benefits can be had for those in power, the Nisei is forgotten.

It was the Japanese American who protested the loudest and the most to the continued use of the racial epithet, "Jap". The Japanese nationals at first did not understand. (One Japanese ambassador to the United Nations told a New York reporter he didn't find the term offensive—and all Nisei and JACL were on his tail.) Many foreigners have taken the term to be complimentary. The Commission's help to reduce acceptance can ease the situation.

The Nikkei can be an important source by making both U.S. and Japan aware of what's going on the street level—where, if any negative feelings fester and later affect the total mass of U.S. population, organizations such as JACL would be involved. In fact, JACL would rather help alleviate tensions before the crisis erupts. By actively promoting better U.S.-Japan relations from inside-the-Commission and directing CULCON is the JACL view.

Ah Yes! The world would be a better place if it were populated with nobody but scholars of all races at the supreme level. But who's going to do all the basic work to feed, house, cloth, etc., them? They might be intellectualizing about great things in the dark caverns of yesterday, perhaps.



FROM THE FRYING PAN: Bill Hosokawa

## Newly-found oil challenges Mexico

Oaxtepec, Mexico

This pleasantly balmy resort village, about an hour and a half by excellent toll road outside of Mexico City, is a delightful place to visit but not much help in providing a Nisei angle for a Pacific Citizen column. The government operates this resort at a hot springs which, we were told, was the retreat of Indian emperors. Now the waters, and various recreational facilities, are available to Mexicans of various socio-economic levels — the facilities range from tents and dormitories to luxurious cabanas.

What brought us here was a conference of American and Mexican editors seeking ways to improve communications across the border. There are many issues that affect both countries, but not a great deal of understanding.

So we had commentators and academics speak about Mexico's new-found oil riches and what the country hopes to do with both the petroleum and the money it will bring in from foreign sales; the poverty that causes hundreds of thousands of simple country folk to slip illegally across the border into *Norte America* in search of work, the rough treatment they get and the resentment this engenders among the rank and file of Mexicans; the winter vegetable business that supplies American tables with out-of-season tomatoes which enrich corporate farmers but does nothing to improve the lot of villagers, and so on and so on and so on.

Oddly enough, the discussion on illegal immigrants did bring up a Japanese American angle. The speaker reviewed the history of migrations that satisfied the need for cheap labor to do the hard work of an expanding United States. He was familiar with the story of Chinese immigrants who helped build the railroads and work the mines, and how in 1882 they were excluded when they began to compete for white men's jobs. And after them came the Japanese, who in turn were barred in 1924

when their labor was no longer needed, partly because of an influx of Filipinos.

The next major wave of strong-armed workmen were recruited in Mexico. But after the bracero program was ended a couple of decades ago, largely under U.S. union pressure, the need remained, and so the illegals continue to stream across the border to take on the hard, menial, unpleasant jobs that Americans are reluctant to accept.

\* \* \*

A drive through the countryside from Oaxtepec to Cuernavaca, where many wealthy foreigners live, provided an eye-opening view of Mexican poverty. Our destination at Cuernavaca was a plush country club with a magnificent clubhouse overlooking a beautifully manicured course. But the villages we drove through en route looked, in many cases, dirtier and poorer and more hopeless than villages I've visited in Taiwan, Korea, Thailand, Vietnam and other Southeast Asian nations.

Some perched on rocky mountainsides. In Asia, villagers living on such inhospitable terrain would have terraced the hillsides into tiny fields that could be cultivated and irrigated. No such effort had been made in the areas we saw in Mexico. Corn had been planted in scraggly rows up the steep slopes. These patches were unable to save the rainfall and were subject to erosion every time a heavy shower struck. Why hadn't the peasants carved flat little patches, even though they might be only a few feet across, out of the hillsides the way Asian peasants have done? I found no answers.

The gulf between Mexico's wealthy and poor is vast and the nation isn't making much progress trying to close it. Officials told us the income from gas and crude oil sales will be earmarked for Mexico's social and economic development. There is an enormous challenge to use that money wisely. If it isn't, there will be no way to keep the lid on popular discontent, and turmoil south of the border is a troubling prospect. #

WEST WIND: Joe Oyama

## 'Hito Hata: Raise the Banner' a surprise hit

San Francisco

*Hito Hata: Raise the Banner*, a 26-minute pilot film (originally meant to be a documentary) directed by Bob Nakamura and co-directed by Duane Kubo of Visual Communications turned out to be better than I had expected. I had seen a publicity photo, which might have prejudiced me. I thought the characters in the photo didn't look exactly like the Issei railroad maintenance crew of old-times. One who might have been the foreman with his hands haughtily pulling on the straps wore spanking white overalls which stood out glaringly from the rest of the crew.

Or was it because I recognized some of the faces in the photo and knew them as either Nisei or Sansei? Well, anyway...

### CBS's Nation Builders

*Hito Hata* is a pilot for a two-hour film to be shown approximately 1½ year from now on CBS's *Nation Builders*, relating the up-to-now unacknowledged contribution of the Japanese railroad workers in America.

Shown before a packed house of Bay Area Nikkei in the Hospitality Room of the California First Bank in Japan Center, the showing was sponsored by the S.F. Center for Japanese American Studies.

Starring Mako and Yuki Shimoda, *Hito Hata* was taken on location in Owens Valley with a cast of 30 people. The award-winning *Wata-dori: Birds of Passage* is another Nakamura creation.

Before showing the film, Nakamura said, "There were Issei known in Japanese as 'buranketto (blanket) katsui-

ei' (carriers) who worked as railroad maintenance men" as late as after WW2. "There were Issei who left the (concentration) camps who went back to working on the railroad."

The film deals with the period of from 1905 to 1910 and then 1920. It's about the so-called unsuccessful Issei who had given of their sweat and blood, so that the glass tumbler full of water on white table-cloths in the dining car wouldn't rattle; the cattle and sheep and hogs could be safely transported to distant markets.

The film opens sometime in the 1970's with Oda, a lonely old Issei man "living out evil years" as Nakamura calls it, walking the streets of Little Tokyo Los Angeles. The city with its multiple of health, old age, redevelopment having an impact on this Issei's life.

Then there is a flashback and we see a little of Oda's early life during his railroad-ing days. "*Hito Hata Ageru* means poor people always have to struggle", Nakamura explained, "and yet although they were told that all men were created equal—they found only dirty work."

There is tension in a night scene when a steam locomotive suddenly comes to a halt, thundering steam and an Issei railroad hand lies crumpled alongside the track. Everyone rushes to him. Bloodied, he yells "Don't let me die in this God forsaken country! Don't let the bastards take me!"

Here are snatches of fragmented conversation while the men are at work carrying very heavy ties or while resting (I'm sorry I took notes in the dark):

"I'll return to my country a rich man."

"We're in hell all of us. This is hell."

"Men—what men? All I see are Wakayama scarecrows."

About the foreman: "Damn he gets meaner every day."

Everyone is standing around a pot with a fire going underneath: "Cook grass? They think we're cows." "Maybe they have some dai-kon and carrots?" Suddenly, someone pops up from nowhere (a Sansei in the audience remarked, "I couldn't see where he came from right out in the middle of the desert!") The Issei yells, "I present the Greater Kyushu Food and Supply Company," holding up a bunch of carrots... And how about these from the Kagoshima magic garden... Now look at these Kagoshima eggs to grow hair. Well, almost anywhere." "Chickens!"

The men go deliriously into an odori, swinging in hand the carrots and chickens, singing "tsuki ga deta" at the top of their lungs and finally, they kick over the pot of grass and a cloud of smoke almost obscures them.

One man says resignedly, "They say farm work in Imperial Valley is not bad. Maybe we'll move there..." Cut.

### A Gerontology Protest

In the last scene we are back in Little Tokyo again in a small bare room, and Oda is invalid. He sits on a sofa, covered with a blanket while a young Sansei, a volunteer helper, listens to him. Oda says, "I left the railroad then..."

A former Nisei school principal commented, the last scene is a stereotype where the old man is on a chair. He doesn't have to be that way—

in a hotel room and the blinds drawn. He could be an energetic old man and lucid. I'm

Continued on Page 7



## NutCracker Fantasy

The Sumitomo Bank is proud to be sponsoring a special preview of "Nutcracker Fantasy," made available through the generosity of Sanrio Communications Inc. prior to general public release. This puppet animation film with the voices of many of your favorite stars required more than four years to complete. Purchase tickets at Sumitomo Bank's Northern California offices.\*

All proceeds for the December 9 performances at the Japan Center Theatre in San Francisco go to the **Aid to Adoption of Special Kids**, founded by Robert and Dorothy DeBolt.

\*Tickets not available in Sacramento, Watsonville, Monterey and Fresno.



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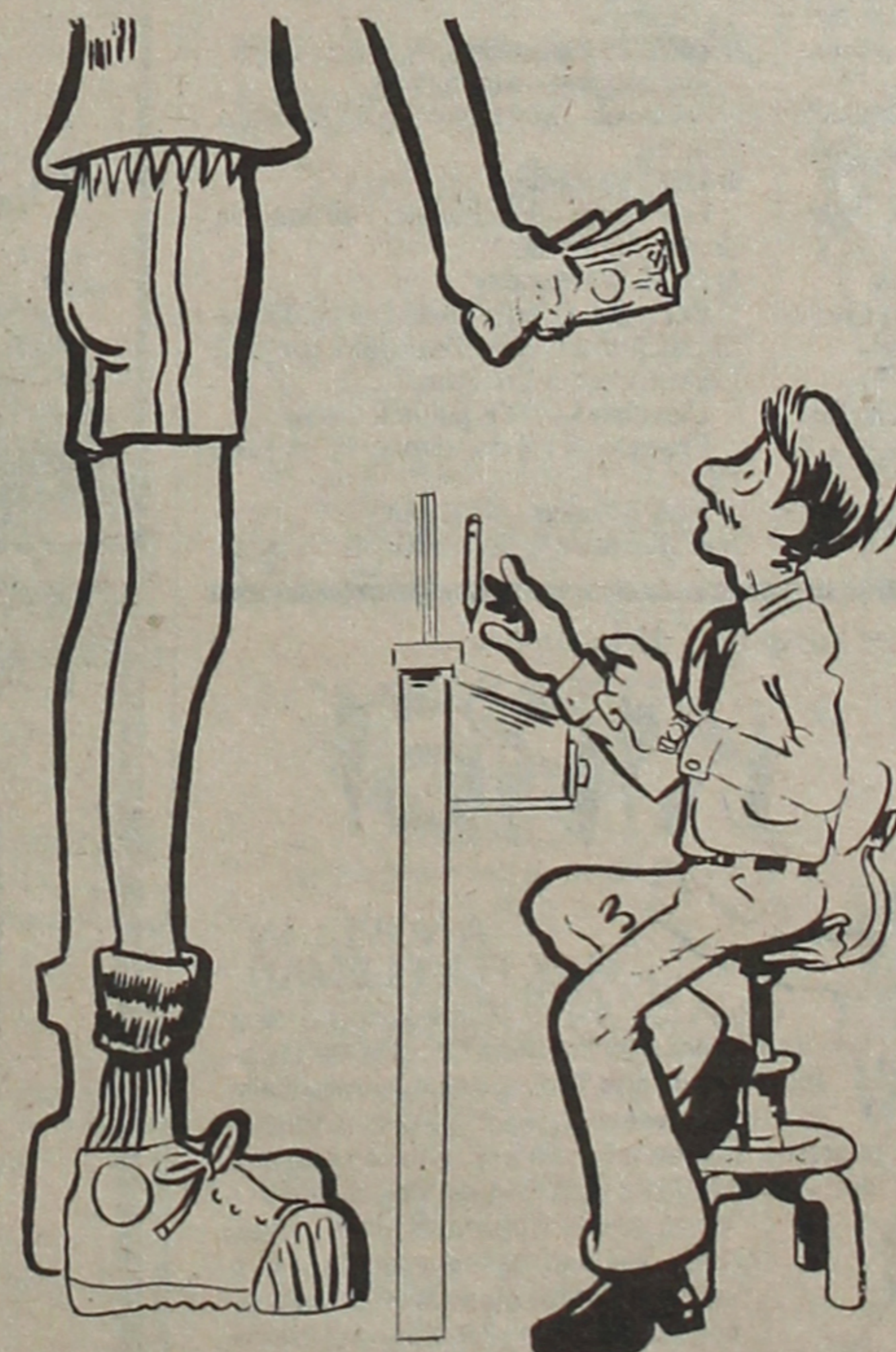
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## CHIAROSCURO:

## Visiting the Capitol

By VICKY MIKESELL  
(Dayton JACL)

I was in Washington D.C. and spent nearly a week on JACL work. It was really exciting and educational for me but my legs have a different outlook on it all.

I called for appointments to see my congressmen. I also checked to see if they did get an appointment for me. I saw Congressman Norm Mineta as he walked in from a meeting so I got to say a few words to him, like—Dayton, Ohio JACL—. The appointment secretaries of Rep. Tony Hall, Sen. John Glenn, Sen. Daniel Inouye, Rep. Robert Matsui all made arrangements for me.

I saw Daniel Inouye for about 20 minutes. Most of the reception rooms I saw were crowded and cluttered but Daniel Inouye's was spacious with a tank of gold fish, books, etc. As I glanced around, I saw a rock surrounded by a lei of sea shells. He explained the story of his rock. (Ask me and I will tell you.) We talked about the Redress and his stand and why. He felt he owed it to the Japanese American mainlanders and "we have to get this settled once and for all and get on with life".

I saw Carl Ford, Foreign Affairs Liaison for Sen. Glenn. He said Senator Glenn was

sympathetic to the Japanese American cause and not to worry. Would I persuade the people I am seeing in the House to help move Senator Glenn's bill on Parliamentary Exchange between U.S. and Japan?

It took me 20 minutes to walk to Rep. Matsui's office. Ron Ikejiri had just left his office as I arrived. Had a short 10 minutes with him and then dashed to Tony Hall's office. He was very gracious and we sat and discussed the new House bill that was to be introduced that day. He appeared to be unaware of it. He talked to me about his Japanese American experience. He had to go vote so we walked to the Capitol and he sat me in the family gallery to watch the proceedings on the House floor. Before he left, he said "Put me down as a supporter." I saw him wave from the House floor. Norm Mineta saw me and yelled "Hi Vicky"—he gets my vote!

Alas, the time I spent in the gallery to see HR 5499 introduced did not happen that morning. I had to leave to check out of the hotel for my trip home.

In reflecting, I still felt that Dayton was represented and "well done" when Tony Hall said he would support the bill.

## Calendar

\* non-JACL event

## ● DEC. 7 (Friday)

Watsonville—Inst dnr-dance, Aptos Seascap, 7pm; Assemblyman Floyd Mori, TV host Jan Yanehiro, spkr.

Cleveland—Bd mtg, Buddhist Church, 8pm.

Contra Costa—Bd dnr, Toraya.

Houston—Election mtg, Anheuser-Busch Guest House, 6 pm; John Tateishi, spkr.

● DEC. 8 (Saturday)

PNWDC/Seattle—Qtrly sess, elections (o/nite), NVC Clubhouse, Sat. 7:30pm; Sun 9am.

\*Sebastopol—Rev G Abiko farewell/

testim dnr, Enmanji Hall, 2pm.

Contra Costa—Holiday ramay party, El Cerrito Comm Ctr, 5:30-7:30pm.

Reno—Inst dnr, Fitzgerald's Hotel-Casino, 7pm; Rep Jim Santini, spkr.

\*Seattle—Wintermelon Readings, W Luke Mem Museum, 2pm.

Eden Township—AAY chicken teriyaki take-out, Eden Comm Ctr, 3-5pm.

● DEC. 9 (Sunday)

Marin County—Inst dnr, Dominic's Harbor Restaurant, San Rafael, 7pm; Folk songs by Phil Gotanda.

Milwaukee—Christmas party, International Inst.

Philadelphia—Christmas party.

West Los Angeles—Aux'y Christmas party, Marina del Rey Hotel.

● DEC. 10 (Monday)

Las Vegas—Election mtg, Osaka Restaurant, 7:30pm

● DEC. 11 (Tuesday)

Milwaukee—Bd mtg, Ed Jonokuchi's res, 7:30pm.

Stockton—Gen mtg, Cal 1st Bank, 8pm.

● DEC. 12 (Wednesday)

Orange County—Annual mtg, Cal 1st Bank, 501 N Main, Santa Ana, 7:30pm.

Washington, DC—Bd mtg, G Yamada, res, 7:30pm.

● DEC. 13 (Thursday)

Sacramento—Bd mtg, Nisei Hall, 7:30

● DEC. 14 (Friday)

Oakland—Bd mtg, Sumitomo Bank, 7:30pm.

● DEC. 15 (Saturday)

Contra Costa—Christmas party.

Stockton—Christmas party.

Philadelphia—Christmas party, Valley Forge Presbyterian Church, 2pm.

Sonoma County—JAYS Christmas party, Enmanji Memorial Hall, 1pm.

\*Seattle—Alan Lau-Dale Kaneko exhibit-reception, Glover/Hayes, Pioneer Sq, 7:30pm.

● DEC. 29 (Saturday)

Washington—Mochitsuki.

Seabrook—Mochitsuki (2da), Buddhist Church.

● DEC. 30 (Sunday)

Las Vegas—Mochitsuki, Heritage Sq South Clubhouse.

● DEC. 31 (Monday)

Berkeley-Contra Costa-Oakland Buddhist Church—New Year's Eve party, El Cerrito Comm Ctr, 9pm.

Cleveland—NYE potluck disco.

Fresno—NYE dnr-dance, Palm Lake CC.

New Mexico—NYE party.

San Diego-VFW Post 4851—NYE party.



NC-WNDC VOLLEYBALL — Seven teams participated in the third annual No. Calif.-W. Nevada / Marin County JACL volleyball tournament in October with Sonoma JACL winning the championship. Team captains (from left) hold their respective trophies: Curtis Dair (Sacramento JAYS) 2nd place; Dennis Sato (Marin County), 3rd place; Larry Miyano (Sonoma), 1st place; Min Sano (Berkeley JACL), best sportsmanship; and Wendell Kishaba (Sonoma JAYS), most perseverance. Teams from National Headquarters and Contra Costa JAYS rounded out the schedule.

## JACL chapter eyed in Dallas-Ft. Worth

HOUSTON, Tex. — While the Houston JACL serves as the Nikkei base for the entire state, hopes for a second JACL chapter in Texas in the Dallas-Ft. Worth area are continuing to be expressed since the 1979 Mountain Plains district conference hosted by the New Mexico JACL.

This past week, the Houston JACL Newsletter asked its readers for leads of potential members in the northern section. Information is being sought by: Paul Shinkawa, PO Box 3153, Harlingen, Tex. 78550.

Renew Your Membership

## TATEISHI SLATED TO ADDRESS HOUSTON

Houston JACL's annual general meeting is set for Friday, Dec. 7, at the Anheuser-Busch Brewery's Guest House, featuring a catered supper from Lenox, "suds" as a courtesy from brewery, soft drinks, and John Tateishi, redress chair, as guest speaker. For the kiddies there will be something special in line with the Christmas theme.

Chapter is also electing its 1980 slate of officers.

Chapter is expected to host the 1980 Mountain Plains spring conference over the Washington Birthday weekend, which will also provide for the Houston's 1980 installation dinner with a prominent guest speaker.

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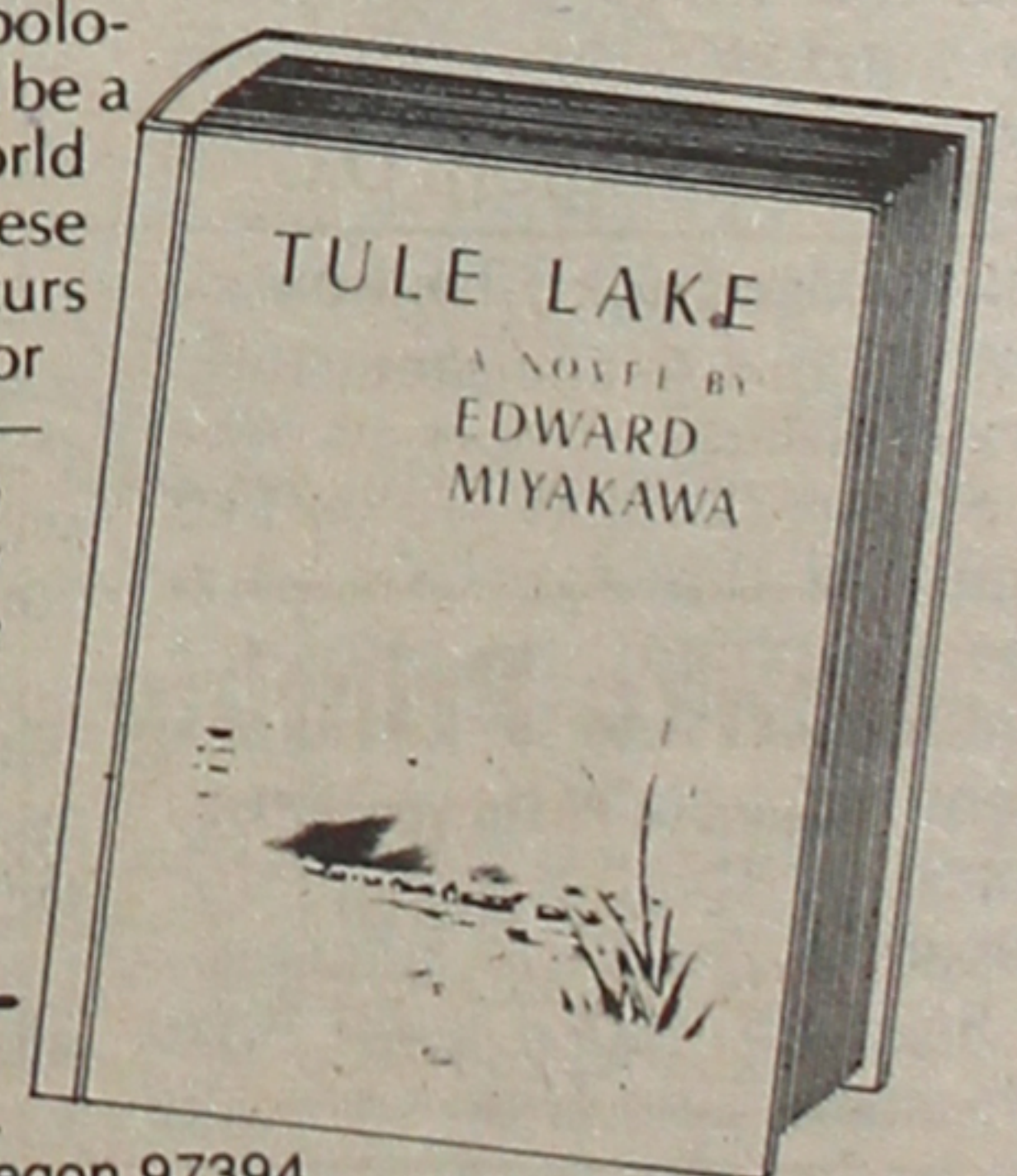
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## The 'No-no Boy' Who Persisted

Author Miyakawa's confrontation with this past resulted in an emotional, sometimes angry, but never apologetic, depiction of how it felt to be a Japanese American during World War II ... The unleashing of these feelings — whether it occurs through writing, conversation or a speech at a memorial service — can be valuable to the audience as it is for the individual. History should be learned from those who made it.

—Evelyn Iritani  
Staff Writer, Seattle  
Post Intelligencer



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JACL medallion  
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SAN FRANCISCO — Orders for the JACL 50th Anniversary for the specially designed JACL 50th Anniversary Medallion will be accepted until Dec. 21, a new deadline, according to JACL Headquarters, which is accepting orders at \$35 per commemorative coin. Coin is 39mm in diameter, pressed from 24K electroplated gold sterling silver by Franklin Mint. #

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## Chapter Pulse

### PHILADELPHIA 1980 FOLK FAIR SLATED

Philadelphia Folk Fair will be held over the May 2-4 week in 1980, a gala spectacle sponsored by Nationalities Service Center with participation from upwards of 50 different ethnic groups. Philadelphia JACL has participated in these biennial events since its inception in the 1950s.

One of the leading fund-raisers for the chapter, it is being chaired by George Higuchi, assisted by:

Jack Ozawa, recruiting; Sim Endo, treas; Reiko Gaspar, exhibit / performance; Hiroshi Uyehara, Mas Yamatani, food; Eiko Ikeda and Chiz Sakata, sales.

### PHILADELPHIA SETS YEAR-END CALENDAR

Philadelphia JACLers are being primed for a Christmas party Dec. 15, a Japanese new year program and feast Jan. 5 and a chapter board meeting Jan. 11 prior to the EDC meeting Jan. 26 at Washington, D.C.

A Mexican touch to Christmas — breaking the pinata and a Mexican dinner — is being planned by Eiko Ikeda,

chairperson, for the Dec. 15 festivities at Valley Forge Presbyterian Church from 2-7 p.m. Assisting are Reiko Gaspar, Chiz Sakata and Betty Endo.

Chiyo Koiwai's committee is planning an authentic Japanese experience for the New Year treat Jan. 5 at Willow Grove Methodist Church from 2 p.m.

Meantime, the Philadelphia JACL's "Mamasan's Cookbook" (\$4.75 postpaid) has been reprinted and may be obtained by writing to:

Philadelphia JACL Cookbook, 5932 Devon Pl., Philadelphia, Pa. 19138.

### YOUNG ADULTS IN PHILADELPHIA ORGANIZE

Eleven young people (ages 21 — 30) in the Philadelphia area met Nov. 4 at the Hiroshi Uyeharas to consider formation of a group within JACL. Similar movement among young adults in Washington, New York and Boston have been observed this past year by Grace Uyehara.

A spring weekend conference on awareness was on the agenda for the second meeting called Dec. 2 at Skip Snyder's residence. Board member Teresa Maebori assisted Laurel Snyder in chairing the meeting.

der's residence. Board member Teresa Maebori assisted Laurel Snyder in chairing the meeting.

### REP. SANTINI SPEAKING AT RENO INSTALLATION

Rep. James D. Santini will be guest speaker at the Reno JACL installation dinner Dec. 8, 7 p.m., at Fitzgerald's Hotel-Casino. He is one of the co-sponsors of HR 5499, the JACL bill to establish an internment study commission. Karl Nobuyuki, national executive director, will be installing officer. The new officers are:

**RENO JACL (Revised)**  
Tom Oki, pres; Keiji Date, vp; Edna Takuma, sec; Kiyoshi Hase, treas. (Miyoko Carter, pres-elect, declined since her husband's new job in California.)

### SANTA ANA'S ASIAN JURIST TO SPEAK

Selanoco JACL's 15th annual installation dinner on Saturday, Jan. 12, will feature Judge Barbara Thompson of the Santa Ana Municipal Court, speaking on the U.S. judicial system. Her mother is Japanese; her father, Chinese.

The dinner will be held at China Gate Restaurant, 10200 Beach Blvd., Stanton.

### CHAPTER SPONSORS SEMINAR ON WILLS

Sonoma County JACL, noting incredibly the number of members without wills, held a seminar on wills Nov. 25 at the Enmanji Hall with noted Santa Rosa attorney Bart Wietzenberg as guest speaker. The meeting was part of the series



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on informational seminars connected with retirement and estate planning. A potluck luncheon preceded.

The Sonoma County JAYS are hosting the annual Christmas party Dec. 15, 1 p.m., at Enmanji Memorial Hall.

### WEST LA. AUXILIARY MARKING 21ST ANNY.

West Los Angeles JACL Auxiliary will celebrate their 21st anniversary at a Christmas motif party Dec. 9 at Marina del Rey Hotel. Former members are also expected to attend and celebrate the occasion with dinner, reminiscing and dancing.

The 1980 officers were installed Nov. 17 at the Miramar Sheraton. They are:

**WEST LOS ANGELES AUXILIARY**  
Veronica O'Hara, pres; Eiko Ikeda, vp; Stella Kishi, treas; Mary Yamatani, sec; Yuki Sakurai, pub. info.

The scholarship in memory of Tayeko Isono, prominent Auxiliary member, was awarded to Tissa Ryoko Hata, biology major at UCLA.

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## OYAMA

Continued from Page 5

more concerned about an old people stereotype than racial stereotype."

Speaking to Nakamura later, he said that they had planned to cut out the last scene and change it.

"A low budget film has a lot of credits," Nakamura said. I'm sorry that I can't list all the credits here.

Nakamura briefly mentioned the trials and tribulations of making a film on a shoe-string budget. He said, "None of the locomotives moved, so we had to shoot out

steam."

The dialogue, originally in Japanese, was translated into English.

According to Nakamura, the film was shown to school children in one of the remote areas in California and when asked their opinion one of the children surprisingly remarked, "Too many Japs!" (in the film). Nakamura also said that many Nikkei were concerned about the impression that it would make on Caucasians as to its educational value.

I ask, "Shouldn't we be the judges instead of them? Isn't this, after all, our history?"

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MOSHI MOSHI: Jim Konomi

## When Navy Had Issei Sailors

The small item in the PC of a few weeks ago about the oldest Nisei sailor in the American Navy reminded me of one of my favorite stories. I have told it countless times. I have also written about it. So I ask the indulgence of those who may happen to have heard, or read, me already.

The story concerns Seaman 3rd class, Osamu Kageyama, of the U.S. Navy, circa 1895—1910. A tall and gangly man, with an extremely long neck, he was almost exclusively known by his nickname Goose-neck. He was an orderly to the captain of the monitor Amphitrite. He distinguished himself in an extraordinary fashion in the Spanish-American war.

As sea battles go, Santiago de Cuba did not come anywhere near Jutland let alone Trafalgar or Tsushima either in the scale of action or the spectacle of fireworks. The Spanish fleet under the command of Admiral Pascual Cervera y Topete consisted of

four obsolete cruisers and three slow destroyers. San Juan Hill was already in the hands of the Rough Riders, commanded by Theodore Roosevelt, threatening it from the rear. A superior American fleet had bottled up the mouth of the bay. Completely outgunned and outspeeded, the only course open for it was to surrender, or make a dash for it to the open sea, risking the American fire. In a futile show of valor, Admiral Cervera chose the latter course. The Spanish fleet was annihilated.

So it was not much of a battle. But as far as Seaman Kageyama was concerned, it was to become the Sea Battle of the Century.

As the decks were cleared for action and general quarters sounded, it was the crowning misfortune of Goose-neck's tough-luck life to feel the unbearable pangs of tenesmus. He had to go to the head. Far be it from me to suggest the tenesmus was induced by nervousness. Heaven forbid!

Why, was he not a true son of Nippon, world renowned for the tradition of bravery? Cross his heart and let him hope to die, he wouldn't have

missed the action for anything—but this. He really had to go, at this juncture in American history.

Gooseneck was not halfway through his business when the American fleet opened up with a volley of broadsides. The Amphitrite shook from stem to stern with a mighty shudder.

Gooseneck jumped up, from sheer reflex action or fright or a sense of duty that he had to join the battle? It is not known. But when he pulled on the door of the head he found it was fast stuck to the frame. He pulled, tugged, and heaved till he was blue in the face, but the door would not budge. He pounded on the door and screamed at the top of his voice. He kicked the door and swore till he was

hoarse. But in the thunderous roars of battle nobody heard him.

Thus it was that Seaman Third Class Osamu Kageyama achieved a distinction unique in the glorious history of the American Navy; he sat through the Battle of Santiago de Cuba.

The contretemps was humiliating, but not enough to sour him on the Navy. It speaks well for the non-spit, non-polish discipline of the American Navy of the time that Gooseneck was not court-martialed for this ignoble dereliction of duty. He was not even reprimanded.

Gooseneck stayed on for many years more and retired from service on a small pension.

I heard this story from a

## 1980 JACL travel program with group flights to Japan planned

SAN FRANCISCO—The 1979 National JACL travel program has been successfully concluded with some 1,300 members participating in the 12 flights to Japan and two special tours: one to South America and the first into the People's Republic of China.

"We are looking forward to the 1980 program," travel committee chairperson Henry S. Sakai said, "to include about 14 flights to Japan, another tour to South America in June and to China in

October.

"With the value of the dollar climbing in Japan, it would seem that 1980 is the time to go if you're thinking about going."

Confirmation of fares to Japan is pending "but it will still be a bargain," Sakai continued. While rumors in the travel industry say the airlines may cancel group affinity programs, "JACL will be coming out with the 1980 schedule as confirmed by the airlines next week," Sakai said. #

## JACLers Visit South America ...

By Ted Miyagishima  
(San Jose JACL)

We in the United States worry, as we should, about the continuous rise in the cost of living. But I wondered if our problem is as great as those five South American countries we visited on the JACL Tour this past summer.

Argentina seems to be suffering more from the dilemma than its neighboring countries. According to the Buenos Aires Herald, it stated on the first page that the cost of living rose 9.7 percent in June, which was well below the 11 percent predicted by economic observers. Imagine, this increase is for one month period! The article further pointed out that prices have risen 160.9 percent in the one-year period since June 1978.

While pricing a Samsonite tote-bag identical to the one I had purchased for about \$25 before the trip, I was surprised to see the price tag marked at \$125. Now, this is

not in any fancy specialty shop but a large department store in Buenos Aires.

Although it seemed a redundant question to the saleslady, I asked her how the people manage their lives in face of the runaway inflation. I guess she didn't have an hour to spare for a dissertation on the causes of inflation, so she off-handedly remarked that they were all "proud" and hardworking people, and they make ends meet although their income never keeps up with the inflation rate. Reminiscent of home, I thought, as I continued on my way.

As my wife and I walked back to our hotel, I wondered about the saleslady's comment on inflation for it was in a way incongruent to what I saw.

True, the street we were walking was noted for its fine shops, but almost all the passersby appeared to be well groomed. Women especially appeared to be dressed in the latest fashion with furcoats, gloves and boots. I also noticed that there seemed to be a Gucci or a Pierre Cardin shop on every block.

(To Be Continued)

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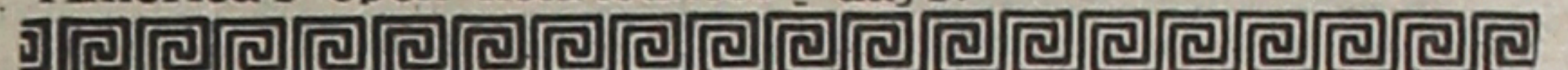
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man who claimed to have worked with him in many of those small beaneries and coffee pots of New York's east side operated by Japanese. Most of them were ship jumpers as Gooseneck was. It is another commentary on America's open heartedness

that Gooseneck did not have to clear security check or literacy test. Down on his luck and out of a job, he wandered into a Navy recruiting station and signed up. It was as simple as that.

Ah, those were the good ole days!



## 1980 JACL Travel Program

Opened to All Bonafide JACL Members and Family Only

ALL DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE  
Group Fare to Japan has not been determined by carriers.

For immediate reservations/information: See chapter administrator.

Group Flight No. / Dates	Carrier / Departure From
1 APRIL 3 - APRIL 24	(JAL) San Francisco
San Jose JACL: Grant Shimizu, 724 N. 1st St., San Jose, Ca. 94112	
2 APRIL 5 - APRIL 26	(Pan Am) Los Angeles
West Los Angeles JACL: George Kanegai, 1857 Brockton, Los Angeles 90025	
(Optional Honolulu stopover. Make return flight to mainland with travel agent.)	
3 MAY 12 - JUNE 2	(JAL) Los Angeles
Downtown L.A. JACL: Aki Ohno, 2007 Barry Ave., West L.A. 90025	
4 JUNE 16 - JULY 7	(Pan Am) Los Angeles
West L.A. JACL: George Kanegai, 1857 Brockton, Los Angeles 90025	
5 JUNE 19 - JULY 10	(JAL) San Francisco
Berkeley JACL: Tad Hirota, 1447 Ada St., Berkeley, Ca 94702	
6 JUNE 21 - JULY 12	(Pan Am) Los Angeles
Downtown L.A. JACL: Aki Ohno, 2007 Barry Ave., Los Angeles 90025	
7 JUNE 22 - JULY 13	(JAL) San Francisco
Chicago JACL: Dr. Frank Sakamoto, 5423 N. Clark St., Chicago, Ill. 60640	
Group + SFO individuals assemble in San Francisco.	
8 JUNE 23 - AUG. 21	(Pan Am) San Francisco/Los Angeles
San Diego: Mas Hironaka, 2640 National Ave., San Diego 92115	
9 JULY 12 - AUG. 9 (Unconfirmed)	Los Angeles/San Francisco
Downtown L.A. JACL: Aki Ohno, 2007 Barry Ave., West Los Angeles 90025	
San Jose JACL: 724 N. First St., San Jose, Ca 94112	
10 AUG 6 - AUG 27	(JAL) San Francisco
National JACL: Yuki Fuchigami, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco 94115	
11 SEPT. 27 - OCT. 18	(Pan Am) Los Angeles
West Los Angeles JACL: George Kanegai, 1854 Brockton, L.A. 90025	
(Optional Honolulu stopover. Make return flight to mainland with travel agent.)	
12 OCT. 2 - OCT. 23	(JAL) San Francisco
Berkeley JACL: Tad Hirota, 1447 Ada St., Berkeley, Ca 94702	
13 OCT. 6 - OCT. 27	(Pan Am) Los Angeles
Downtown L.A. JACL: Aki Ohno, 2007 Barry Ave., Los Angeles 90025	
14 OCT. 5 - OCT. 26	(JAL) San Francisco
Chicago JACL: Dr. Frank Sakamoto, 5423 N. Clark St., Chicago, Ill. 60640	
Group + SFO individuals assemble in San Francisco.	
15 OCT. 6 - OCT. 30	(JAL) San Francisco
San Jose JACL: Grant Shimizu, 724 N. 1st St., San Jose, Ca 94112	
16 OCT. 6-29 / OCT. 7-30	(JAL) Los Angeles
San Diego JACL: Mas Hironaka, 2640 National Ave., San Diego 92115	
Orange County JACL: Ben Shimizu, P.O. Box 1854, Santa Ana, Ca 92702	
17 OCT. 18 - NOV. 8 (Unconfirmed)	San Francisco
Sacramento JACL: Tom Okubo, 1121 Lake Glen Way, Sacramento, Ca 95822	

### SPECIAL TOURS

JUNE 23-JULY 10: South America Tour (Varig) Los Angeles  
FALL CHINA TOUR (Dates to be announced): Cities to be visited include Peking, Shanghai, Canton, and one other city; stopovers in Tokyo and Hong Kong.

**SPECIAL NOTICE:** GA 100 air fare has not been determined by the air carriers. Notice will be given immediately upon confirmation of fare and of other changes in group fares. All dates and times, subject to change. **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:** Contact Yuki Fuchigami, JACL Travel Coordinator, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, Calif. 94115, or call (415) 921-5225.

### Information Coupon

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