

● JACL Testimony to CWRIC:

## Euphemistic and Accurate Terminology

Prepared for the National JACL Committee for Redress for its presentation before the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, this paper by Raymond Y. Okamura of Berkeley is being published as part of the special series of documents being made a part of the CWRIC record. Since extensive documentation was included in Okamura's report (which are being omitted for lack of space), readers may request a copy of the text with footnotes from the JACL Committee for Redress or the author.—Ed.

BY RAYMOND Y. OKAMURA  
(Special to The Pacific Citizen)

The government of the Third Reich (Nazi Germany) utilized an elaborate system of euphemisms to cover up what was actually happening to millions of European Jews, Gypsies, and other groups deemed undesirable. *Emigration, evacuation, final solution, relocation, resettlement and special treatment* were used as code words for the Nazi program of methodical mass murder. The extermination camps in occupied Poland were referred to simply as *the east*; and the various concentration camps where victims were gathered and confined to await *re-settlement in the east* were called *assembly centers, protective custody camps, reception centers, relocation centers and transit camps*. Even more sardonically, the prison city of Terezin, which served as a way station to the gas chambers at Auschwitz, was described in official literature as a *health resort, model ghetto, paradise ghetto and retirement home*.

Nazi officials were very careful about what they put in writing and always masked their evil intentions with euphemistic language. The actual order to annihilate the Jewish people, for example, was camouflaged with cryptic phraseology:

Complementing the task which was conferred upon you already on 24 Jan. 1939, to solve the Jewish problem by means of emigration and evacuation in the best possible way according to present conditions, I charge you herewith to make all necessary preparations ... for a total solution of the Jewish question within the area of German influence in Europe.

Later, the Nazi defendants at the Nuremberg War Crimes

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## Bannai to keynote MDC/EDC convention

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—Paul Bannai, executive director of the relocation and evacuation commission, will be among the guests slated to take part in the programs at the EDC/MDC convention in St. Louis on July 30-Aug. 2, 1981.

The biennial convention, to be held on the campus of Washington University, will also feature the presence of JACL President Jim Tsujimura, JACL National Director Ron Wakabayashi, and JACL Redress chair Minoru Yasui.

The program for the convention will include workshops on long range planning for JACL, U.S.-Japan relations; and redress. In addition, a presentation by a representative of the Social Security Administration has been arranged.

The JACL long range planning workshop, chaired by Lillian Kimura, will attempt to identify future directions for JACL in the context of current and emerging social, political, and organization trends. It will be the task of this session to analyze the significant factors in society today which will have impact on Japanese Americans as a group. These factors include the influence of government, the public and economic and demographic factors. Discussion will also entail an assessment of the JACL membership needs and an examination of the internal strengths and weaknesses of JACL.

Dr. Kaz Kimura (Dayton) and Cherry Tsutsumida, governor of the Eastern district, will convene the workshop on U.S.-Japan relations. The topics for discussion include the broad area of U.S.-Japan relations and JACL's role therein and the means of dealing with the negative feelings toward Japan as expressed by many sectors in the U.S. stemming from the depressed economy and the resultant effects on Japanese Americans. A final area of discussion will include aspects of corporate funding through American based Japanese firms.

## Judge apologizes for racial slur

SANTA CLARA, Ca.—Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge Lawrence F. Terry apologized publicly July 10 for ethnic remarks in his courtroom aimed at two Japanese American county probation officers.

Terry, the presiding judge of the Santa Clara County Juvenile Court, had told probation officers Glen Arima

and David Horiuchi on June 26:

"You Japanese boys have got to get your act together. You're probably using a Japanese calculator. You probably would do better if you used an abacus."

Terry made the remark because of difficulties encountered by the court in de-

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## Evacuation a 'minor issue' to FDR in '42, top Justice Dept. aide recalls for CWRIC

WASHINGTON—The first hearing of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians July 14 called upon former government officials of the Roosevelt Administration to testify about their roles in the 1942 evacuation and internment of 120,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry, an event which an Army historian dubbed "a dark interlude in American history."

CWRIC chair Joan Z. Bernstein opened the historic session in the Senate Caucus Room along with

### Rowe: Never saw need, nor Munson Report

WASHINGTON—While the top Justice Dept. aide James Rowe said that the early months of WW2 created the fear and hysteria that led to removal of Japanese American, under questioning Rowe could not recall ever seeing the report certifying an extraordinary degree of loyalty of West Coast Japanese from Curtis Munson, a journalist working for the State Department.

Rowe also told the CWRIC he never saw military necessity as a reason to evacuate

six of the nine commissioners: Rep. Daniel E. Lungren of Long Beach, also CWRIC vice chair; former Massachusetts Senator Edward W. Brooke; former Supreme Court Justice Arthur Goldberg; Aleutian Father Ishmail Gromoff; Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas Judge William Marutani; and former U.S. Senator Hugh B. Mitchell. Absent were Fr. Robert F. Drinan and Civil Rights Commissioner Arthur S. Fleming.

### Top Justice Dept. Aide

The first government witness to testify was James H. Rowe, who was the assistant to Attorney General Francis Biddle in 1942. Rowe told the CWRIC that intense pressure from the public and the press forced the Justice Department and Roosevelt to agree to the demands of military leaders.

"I don't know how you can be on the run and up against the wall at the same time, but that's how we (Justice Dept. officials) felt," said Rowe. "We were under pressure from the Congress and from the Army. We could have done a hell of a lot better job and we didn't do it. But we were all they had."

### Who Are These Folks?



UCLA Library, Dept. of Special Collections

This 1941 photograph of a U.S. government agent searching a Japanese American home is among the 20,000 being printed for UCLA Library's Dept. of Special Collections. The collection represents the old Los Angeles Daily News picture file between 1927 and 1954, acquired by the L.A. Times and later donated to UCLA in 1958. Photos are available for research and exhibits; call Natalie Hall (213) 825-2585.

## '41-'42: vernaculars in L.A. put on the defensive

Los Angeles With the rising tide of public opinion crying for the evacuation of all West Coast Japanese, the local vernaculars had a vital role to play in keeping the community abreast of news—at least until they were forced to suspend publication in 1942.

"A government intelligence officer once observed that America's residents of Japanese ancestry were probably the best informed of any single racial group in the nation on the problems confronting their own ethnic minority," wrote Pacific Citizen editor Larry Tajiri in his July 27, 1946 column.

One of the most influential Japanese American vernaculars in Southern California was the *Rafu Shimpō* in Los Angeles. During the harrowing days after Pearl Harbor, the *Rafu* kept the community informed of such wartime matters as the Justice Department's investigation of alien Japanese, U.S. government regulations, and community meetings.

As the orders to evacuate drew near in the months of February

and March of 1942, the *Rafu* would report the government's designated "prohibited zones" Nikkei in California, registration instructions for Japanese American families and other words of advice to the community. The newspaper would also try to dispell any false rumours that may have circu-

The tide of the war, in Japan's favor at the time, played a part also, said Rowe. "I really think what caused all the problems was the early three months of the war, when the United States was beaten all over," said the former assistant attorney general. "The hysteria started rising, and there was speculation that there wasn't time."

Even though such officials as FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover were against the internment, Rowe said that the military men prevailed.

"Did anyone go to the President and say, 'this is legally and morally wrong?' asked commissioner Goldberg.

"It's a hard question," said Rowe. "I don't know."

### A 'Minor Issue' to FDR

Rowe added that he felt President Roosevelt acted too quickly after being advised by military leaders, and that the Evacuation was a "minor issue."

"This is a crude way of putting it, but we had a wartime president, and this was really a minor issue," said Rowe. "Roosevelt was engaged in war and he said, 'If you have generals pushing for it, I'll go along.'"

"I don't really think he spent much time on it. It's a serious thing to say but I think it was a minor thing to him."

On the matter of reparations, Rowe felt that nothing could be done at this time. He said that perhaps an apology should be made, although he questioned the value

Compiled from wire service reports and on-the-scene coverage by Wayne Yoshino, special PC correspondent, and Bill Yoshino, MDC regional director. Written and edited by PC asst. editor Peter Imamura.

## L.A., S.F. hearing locales set

WASHINGTON—The Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians will hold their Los Angeles hearings at the State of California Auditorium, 107 South Broadway, on Aug. 4, 5, and 6. The Aug. 4 and 6 hearings will begin promptly at 9 a.m. and continue until approximately 5 p.m. The Aug. 5 hearing will begin at 1 p.m. and end approximately 9 p.m.

The San Francisco hearings will be held at Golden Gate University Auditorium, 536 Mission St., on Aug. 11, 12 and 13. The Aug. 11 and 13 hearings are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; the Aug. 12 hearing 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. #

patriotic Nisei in the JACL may have reported him to Naval intelligence officers. Eleven days after his arrest, Tanaka was released.

### Editorial Stands

Tanaka returned to a Los Angeles community that was caught up in confusion and, in a sense,

Continued from Last Week

### PC FOCUS

By PETER IMAMURA

lating in the community, in an attempt to straighten out the confusion that so was evident in those dark days.

As Bill Hosokawa noted in his book, "Nisei: The Quiet Americans," Togo Tanaka, then the editor of the *Rafu*, was arrested in Los Angeles along with other community leaders shortly after Pearl Harbor by the FBI, who were armed with a "presidential warrant." Tanaka was never charged with any violation of the law, nor was he given any reason.

Tanaka told Hosokawa that he suspected that a few, overzealous,

fear. Editorially, the *Rafu* opposed the cries for evacuation, but as E.O. 9066 was signed, the inevitability of the orders to move out forced the paper to stress cooperation and sacrifice within the community, perhaps, because it was the safest way to prove loyalty to the U.S.

Tanaka was active in both the JACL and the United Citizens Federation. In the Feb. 28, 1942 issue of the *Rafu*, a summary of the UCF's meeting on the previous night was published:

"The American born Nisei and resident Japanese have from the

of such a gesture at this late date. He was not in favor of reparation.

### WRA Official's Remarks

The next government witness was Leland Barrows, (1942-43) assistant director of the War Relocation Authority. He admitted that the camps "were a bad place to be. Being confined anywhere is bad."

Barrows described the camp conditions and noted that for a few months after the evacuation was completed, "the racist critics of the Japanese Americans were comparatively quiet."

Barrows, whom witnesses praised for his humane treatment of internees, noted:

"When they learned that WRA intended as rapidly as possible to release the evacuees ... and to regain full status as Americans for the evacuees they began to direct their fire against WRA as an organization."

"There had always been the feeling among the hostile element that the evacuees should have been kept under military control."

"It (WRA) was constantly faced with sensational charges that it

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### Bernstein's opening for Commission noted

WASHINGTON—In opening remarks as the CWRIC was called to order July 14, commission chair Joan Bernstein, former chief counsel to the U.S. Dept. HHS, characterized the evacuation as "a sad chapter in American history". Telling a packed Senate Caucus Room audience, "We need to understand how it was that the nation's military and civilian leaders decided to evacuate and confine 120,000 people for no reason other than their ancestry."

She added that the commission will explore all possible remedies for the wrongs done

outset of the war been anxious as a group to demonstrate their loyalty to the United States. While politicians were kicking the problem of mass evacuation around until it had a political football, there was room for discussion, debate. President Roosevelt's executive order placing complete authority in the hands of the Army ended all that.

"So we asked the Army for its advice. The response has been made unmistakably clear. We are at war. Our existence as a nation is threatened. Nothing comes before the security and safety of our nation. No sacrifice can be too great."

"The Army is about to call upon us for action. Whatever the orders may be, let us be prepared to carry them out cheerfully, loyally, as true Americans."

Other editorials tried to calm the hysteria that was running through the Nikkei community.

"The hysteria grows. Soon it breeds resentment. Then follows bitterness. Once the Nisei wallow in bitterness and rancor, and their attitudes show it, we are lost," said a Mar. 15, 1942 editorial.

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## Redress Reports

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was coddling, pampering or over-feeding the evacuees in the centers, or that its relocation program was turning 'spies and saboteurs' loose upon the American people."

Former Supreme Court Justice Abe Fortas told of his role during the war as the Undersecretary of the Interior from 1942-46. He said his personal participation with the Japanese Americans and Japanese during the war was "limited" as far as their internment and relocation.

"It is a sad and nationally humiliating story," said Fortas, who added "I believe the mass evacuation of those of Japanese ancestry was a tragic error, and I cannot escape the conclusion that racial prejudice was a basic ingredient."

However, Fortas said that persons such as President Roosevelt, War Secretary Henry Stimson, WRA chief Dillon Myer and his own former boss, Interior Secretary Harold L. Ickes, were "persons of good will who did what they could within the severe limits of the practical situation to limit and alleviate the hardships and injustices of the original actions."

### Hirabayashi at Opener

In addition to the former government officials, other witnesses testified for the record. Dr. Gordon Hirabayashi, professor of Asian American Studies at the Univ. of Washington had fought the exclusion order all the way to the Supreme Court, but lost his case and spent two years in prison.

"For me it was choice of accepting what I believed the Constitu-

■ *Freedom is a possession of inestimable value.*

—Justinian Code.

tion guaranteed for American citizenship... or to resign myself to becoming a second class citizen."

Hirabayashi feels that interned Japanese Americans should be fully compensated for their loss of property, which the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco in 1942 estimated to be \$400 million.

Most notably, Hirabayashi formally requested that the CWRIC ask Congress to provide legislation that would permit the reopening of his and similar cases.

Goldberg commented to Hirabayashi that in *Shelley v. Kraemer*, the question of due process

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### KOA-TV producing redress documentary

DENVER, Co.—Dalton Tanonaka, Nikkei newsman from KOA-TV (4) was assigned to produce a documentary relating to the Japanese American redress issue. He and a cameraman also went to Washington, D.C. to film the actual hearings July 14-16 for airing in Denver.

Tanonaka, originally from Hawaii, is probably the first Asian to be employed in the TV industry in the Denver area. His mother is of Korean ancestry, and his father is Japanese. He is a graduate of Northern Illinois University, in DeKalb.

The documentary about redress, involving Japanese Americans here, including Bill Hosokawa of the Denver Post, Minoru Yasui as Chair of the JACL Redress Committee, Osaki Taniwaki, Frank Torizawa of Granada Fish, and others who were residents at the Granada WRA camp, at Amache, during World War II.

—KOA-TV

## Euphemistic and Accurate Terminology

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Trials claimed that they knew nothing more than what the written documents stated. Until the truth finally leaked out, the Nazi terminology deceived not only the general populace, but the victims as well. Many Jews were tricked into turning themselves in for *evacuation* and *resettlement*. Also, the euphemistic language made it easier for the vast number of government workers involved in the machinery of death to carry out their tasks without remorse.

### U.S. No Exception to Propagandistic Terms

Nazi Germany was not unique in the use of deceptive terminology for propaganda purposes. Governments—like people—generally do not like to admit wrongdoing or think badly of themselves; and any government in power can be expected to hide, misrepresent, or rationalize its unsavory activities. But once the government changes hands, and the truth becomes widely known, the liberated people usually do not perpetuate the distortions of the former government. For example, it would be unthinkable today for anyone to suggest that the events which took place in Nazi-occupied Europe should be an "evacuation" and "relocation" simply because those were the terms used at the time. Such euphemisms have been relegated to their proper place as historical footnotes, and the main body of literature on the Holocaust uses terms more reflective of the facts.

The United States was no exception to the tendency of governments to characterize their own actions in propagandistic terms. An ingenious array of euphemisms—some chillingly identical to the Nazi euphemisms—were used by the U.S. government to describe the mass incarceration of Japanese Americans. The fact that the government at the time promoted euphemistic language is understandable: the puzzling phenomenon is the continued uncritical adherence to the government-coined expressions—even to this date—by nearly everyone concerned. If this practice persists much longer, there will be no one left alive who can testify to the truth, and the United States will score one of the biggest propaganda fears in recent history.

In early 1942, federal officials were faced with a perplexing problem: how to satisfy the growing demands from the West Coast to lock up every single person of Japanese ancestry. There was no problem with respect to adult Japanese nationals against whom there was even the flimsiest bit of evidence, no matter how farfetched. Non-citizens could be classified as *alien enemies deemed dangerous* and summarily interned under individual warrants by the Justice Department.

The question was how to imprison a large number of innocent people—especially American citizens—under color of law. Since there was no evidence whatsoever against the vast majority of Japanese Americans, and since most of the target population consisted of babies, children, and invalids who could not possibly be dangerous, some device had to be found to permit the incarceration of an entire group of people based solely on their ancestry. The solution which emerged after numerous consultations between government and military officials was the extensive use of double-talk. Euphemistic, vague, or misleading terms were formulated to cover up the massive violation of constitutional and human rights.

### WW2 Experience of Japanese Americans

"Evacuation" and "relocation" are the two most commonly used terms to describe the World War II experience of Japanese Americans. A close examination of the definitions of these words, however, reveals the underlying propaganda intent. *Evacuation* is the process of temporarily moving people away from an immediate and real danger, such as a fire, flood, shoot-out, or bomb threat. Similarly, *relocation* is the process of more permanently moving people away from a long-term hazard, such as an unsafe building, earthquake fault, or contaminated environment. Both terms strongly suggest that the movement is for the protection or safety of the affected people; and it was precisely for this reason that the government selected such words. There is no hint in either term that people are to be confined, detained, imprisoned, or restrained in any way. Thus, if these terms are accepted at face value, complaints and lawsuits about false imprisonment or unlawful detention are effectively precluded.

The cryptic language used in Executive Order 9066 is reminiscent of the Nazi orders. President Franklin D. Roosevelt's order never mentioned detention or imprisonment. Instead, the true intent of the order was cunningly disguised as follows:

"I hereby authorize and direct the Secretary of War, and the Military Commanders whom he may from time to time designate... to prescribe military areas... from which any or all persons may be excluded, and with respect to which, the right of any person to enter, remain in, or leave shall be subject to whatever restriction the Secretary of War or the appropriate Military Commander may impose in his discretion. The Secretary of War is hereby authorized to provide for residents of any such area who are excluded therefrom, such transportation, food, shelter, and other accommodations as may be necessary."

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U.S. government and military officials knew exactly what those innocuous sounding phrases meant, and they promptly set about building concentration camps. "Any or all persons" meant only persons of Japanese ancestry; "may be excluded" meant being kicked out of one's home and locked up; "the right to leave shall be subject to whatever restriction" meant being shot if one tried to escape; and "shelter and other accommodations" meant tar paper barracks surrounded by barbed wire fences and guard towers.

A follow-up directive from Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson to the designated Military Commander General John L. DeWitt was even more Hitlerian in tone:

In order to permit the War Department to make plans for the proper disposition of individuals whom you contemplate moving outside your jurisdiction, it is desired that you make known to me your detailed plans for evacuation. Individuals will not be entrained until such plans are furnished and you are informed that accommodations have been prepared at the point of detaining.

And the resultant public proclamation by General DeWitt puts the Nazi propagandists to shame:

Whereas, it is necessary, in order to provide for the welfare and to insure the orderly evacuation and resettlement of Japanese voluntarily migrating from Military Area No. 1, to restrict and regulate such migration... all alien Japanese and persons of Japanese ancestry who are within the limits of the Military Area No. 1, be and they are hereby prohibited from leaving that area for any purpose until and to the extent that a future proclamation or order of this headquarters shall so permit or direct.

The "future proclamation or order" turned out to be a prescription condemning Japanese Americans to imprisonment. The entire process of incarceration was couched in euphemistic terminology. The detention orders were called *civilian exclusion orders*; the accompanying instructions stated that they were merely to be *evacuated* at a certain time and date; the temporary detention camps where they were initially confined were named *assembly centers* or *reception centers*; and the permanent concentration camps where they were ultimately incarcerated were called *relocation centers*. All written orders contained the curious phrase "non-alien", which turned out to be a code word for a citizen of the United States of America.

### Linguistic Party-Line Cited as Gibberish

Government and military officials took great pains to assure that everyone within their control followed the linguistic party-line. In a remarkable bit of gibberish, General DeWitt instructed his subordinate military commanders:

The Evacuation Center has been established for the purpose of caring for Japanese who have been moved from certain military areas. They have been moved from their homes and placed in camps under guard as a matter of military necessity. The camps are *concentration camps* and the use of this term is considered objectionable. Evacuation Centers are not internment camps. Internment camps are established for another purpose and are not related to the evacuation program.

Dillon S. Myer, director of the so-called *War Relocation Authority*, issued similar instructions to the civilian staff:

The term *camp* when used to refer to a relocation center is likewise objectionable. It leads people to confuse the relocation centers administered by the War Relocation Authority with the detention camps and internment camps administered by other agencies. The evacuees are not *internees*. They have not been *interned*... employees of the War Relocation Authority should refer to them as persons who have been evacuated from the West Coast as evacuees, and the projects as relocation centers. Some people have been referring to the evacuees as *colonists*. This term is not objectionable, but the term *evacuee* seems preferable. Where the context makes the meaning clear, the term *resident* is, of course, also acceptable.

But no matter what the government called them, the facilities were in reality concentration camps and the inmates were prisoners. General DeWitt left no doubt that the Japanese Americans were to be confined:

It is hereby ordered that all persons of Japanese ancestry, both alien and non-alien, who now or shall hereafter reside, pursuant to Exclusion Orders and Instructions from this Headquarters, within the bounds of established Assembly Centers, Reception Centers or Relocation Centers... are required to remain within the bounds of Assembly Centers, Reception Centers or Relocation Centers at all times unless specifically authorized to leave.

For the concentration camps located outside of the Western Defense Command jurisdiction, Secretary of War Stimson issued similar orders:

All persons of Japanese ancestry, and all members of their families, both alien and non-alien, who now or shall hereafter be or reside, pursuant to orders and instructions of the Secretary of War, or pursuant to the orders and instructions of the Commanding General, Western Defense Command and Fourth Army, or otherwise, within the bounds of said War Relocation Project Areas are required to remain within the bounds of said War Relocation Project Areas at all times unless specifically authorized to leave.

The written orders were backed up with barbed wire fences, guard towers, search lights and machine guns. It was clearly understood by both guards and prisoners that the restrictions would be enforced with physical violence if necessary. General DeWitt set forth the following policy:

The military police on duty at relocation centers and areas shall perform the following functions:... They will maintain periodic motor patrols around the boundaries of the center or area in order to guard against attempts by evacuees to leave the center without permission... They shall apprehend and arrest evacuees who do leave the center or area without authority, using such force as is necessary to make the arrest.

(Note—Until this statement becomes part of the official record of the Commission, no portion of this work may be reproduced without permission from the author.)

To Be Continued

### Foster Grandparents hosts Nancy Reagan

WASHINGTON—Betty Kozasa, Los Angeles director of the Foster Grandparent Program, was one of the 350 participants in the program's National Conference June 28-July 2 here.

First Lady Nancy Reagan was a guest of the five-day conference, who noted during the closing session that an important facet of the program is that it serves two groups—the elderly and the young of the nation.

## JUST OFF THE PRESS!

### The Japanese American Community: A Three-Generation Study

By GENE N. LEVINE / COLBERT RHODES

A product of the survey data collected by the JACL-UCLA Japanese American Research Project of the Issei, Nisei and Sansei indicating the degree of acculturation, the relationship between attitudes and behavior within the Japanese American ethnic group, and the changes...

Dr. Levine's special study sought to discover how the Japanese American community has managed to retain its solidarity as it has—considering all the pressures to the contrary for assimilation and acculturation. He addressed the question by concentrating on the Nisei, using the Issei as the basis, and employing the Sansei data to gauge outcomes. His final chapter offers a prognosis—controversial when it was presented at the 1978 National JACL Convention, Salt Lake City.

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# IMAMURA

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At times, the Rafu had to respond to politicians who made public statements calling for evacuating the Japanese. Los Angeles Mayor Fletcher Bowron told the Tolan Congressional Investigating Committee on March 6, 1942 that he felt the majority of Japanese Americans were loyal and law abiding. However, Bowron also told the committee that he was flatly opposed to the idea of allowing Nisei to set up grievance boards to hear extraordinary cases of persons affected by Army orders.

In an "Open Letter" to Bowron published Mar. 8, 1942, Tanaka questioned the mayor's statements, asking why Bowron had no objections to German and Italian aliens setting up their own boards. "In effect, you would deny to native-born citizens what you would grant to Axis enemy aliens. Why?" asked Tanaka.

But Tanaka also tried to plead to Bowron's sense of decency:

"We still have faith in your honesty and judgement... We have

always respected your intelligence, openmindedness, tolerance. We do not believe all our problems can be solved successfully by any set pattern. We must allow for mistakes."

The Rafu also responded aggressively to other politicians, such as Sen. Tom Stewart of Tennessee, who had introduced legislation to exclude the Nisei from U.S. citizenship.

"To our would-be Hitlers: 'We're not a bunch of sheep!'" was the heading of Tanaka's Mar. 13, 1942 editorial, in which he addressed such persons as Stewart:

"Our reply is: 'You can rob us of all our worldly goods. You can drive us from our homes. You can herd us into concentration camps... But you CANNOT stop us from thinking. You CANNOT crush the spirit of liberty and the American traditions on which we were nurtured and raised.

"Our sacrifice in cooperating with the Army authorities surpasses that of our boys on the battlefields, because we want the opportunity they have to prove their loyalty. We are asked to accept a denial of that privilege in

the name of patriotism. Who else would do that except those who deeply love America?"

Tanaka made his stand clear: "We're not giving up our birthright of American citizenship without a fight."

However, as the tragic day to evacuate drew closer, such defiance dwindled, and Tanaka's editorials reflected an attitude that seemed to be a reluctant but cooperative one. This stance was evident in his Mar. 20, 1942 column, in which he lent some thoughts on the Evacuation:

"... This can be a tragedy or it can be an opportunity. We choose to make it the latter.

"Of course, we did not like the racial classification banning our citizen group. We opposed it on principle, asserted it was unfair

and not quite the American way.

"But we're not forgetting either, there's the bloodiest war in history raging in nearly every quarter of the globe. A lot of things that make up the American way are temporarily being shelved for the duration. The Army's decision is O.K. with us. Let's not waste time in further debate.

"Let's thank God we've got the most humane Army in the whole world dealing with us..."

Some optimism remained, though, even on the eve of the last publishing day before evacuating. In a Mar. 30, 1942 editorial, the Rafu looked ahead under a ray of hope:

"We of the Rafu Shimpō, impelled by the motive of serving the resident Japanese of America consistent with the best interests

of this country, are living in the hope for a better world, both at home and abroad..."

"We shall succeed, and out of this all we shall write new meaning into those terms of hope: Liberty, Equality and Fraternity."

In retrospect, Tanaka said in a recent interview July 16 that as America's tide in the Pacific turned for the worse during World War II, the major press began running unfavorable stories and columns against the resident Nikkei.

He noted that the under the circumstances, the community was confused and afraid—public hysteria was after the Japanese—and many of the Japanese American vernaculars had to be "apologists" in a sense, because it was the "safest" thing to do in those days.

The Japanese press on the West

Coast, noted Tanaka, had "nothing by which it could defend itself" because the economic strength of the community was vested in the "enemy alien" Isseis, who had been rounded up by the government with no means of legal defense. The Nisei on the other hand, were in a somewhat inferior position in terms of any control or power. The vernaculars, said Tanaka, reflected this imbalance.

He added that he doesn't regret what he said in those times, under the circumstances—but he probably wouldn't say the same things today.

So it appeared that a "climate of fear" forced an attitude of "reluctant submission" upon many Nikkei community leaders in 1942—even members of their press.

## Nisei Week to celebrate L.A.'s Bicentennial

LOS ANGELES—The city's Bicentennial will be the theme of the 41st Annual Nisei Week Festival Aug. 8-16. The Grand Parade, which draws upwards of 100,000 spectators to Little Tokyo each year, will highlight the festival Aug. 9.

Ushering the festivities, the Baby Prince and Princess show will be held Saturday, Aug. 1, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the LAPD Parker Center Auditorium. For info call Kathryn Nada (213) 467-1647 or Lun Lee 924-0736.

A large delegation from Nagoya, Japan, led by Vice Mayor Takao Tani, Akira Watanabe, president of the City Assembly, and Kazumi Kojima, Miss Nagoya, will be the guests of honor at a gala Bicentennial Dinner on Friday, Aug. 7, at the Bonaventure Hotel.

The Festival's activities then begin on Saturday, Aug. 8, with the crowning of the Nisei Week Queen at the Coronation Ball, to be held at the Disneyland Hotel.

The parade, with a route covering First and Second Streets in Little Tokyo, will begin at 3 p.m. Aug. 9 and features colorful Ondo dancers leading the procession in

summer kimonos, followed by floats carrying the Nisei Week Queen and her court. Other floats will feature beauty queens from San Francisco, Hawaii and Nagoya.

Mayor Tom Bradley, Councilman Gilbert Lindsay and Issei Pioneers will also take part in the procession, which will include Taiko drummers and Taru-Mikoshi Sake cask bearers.

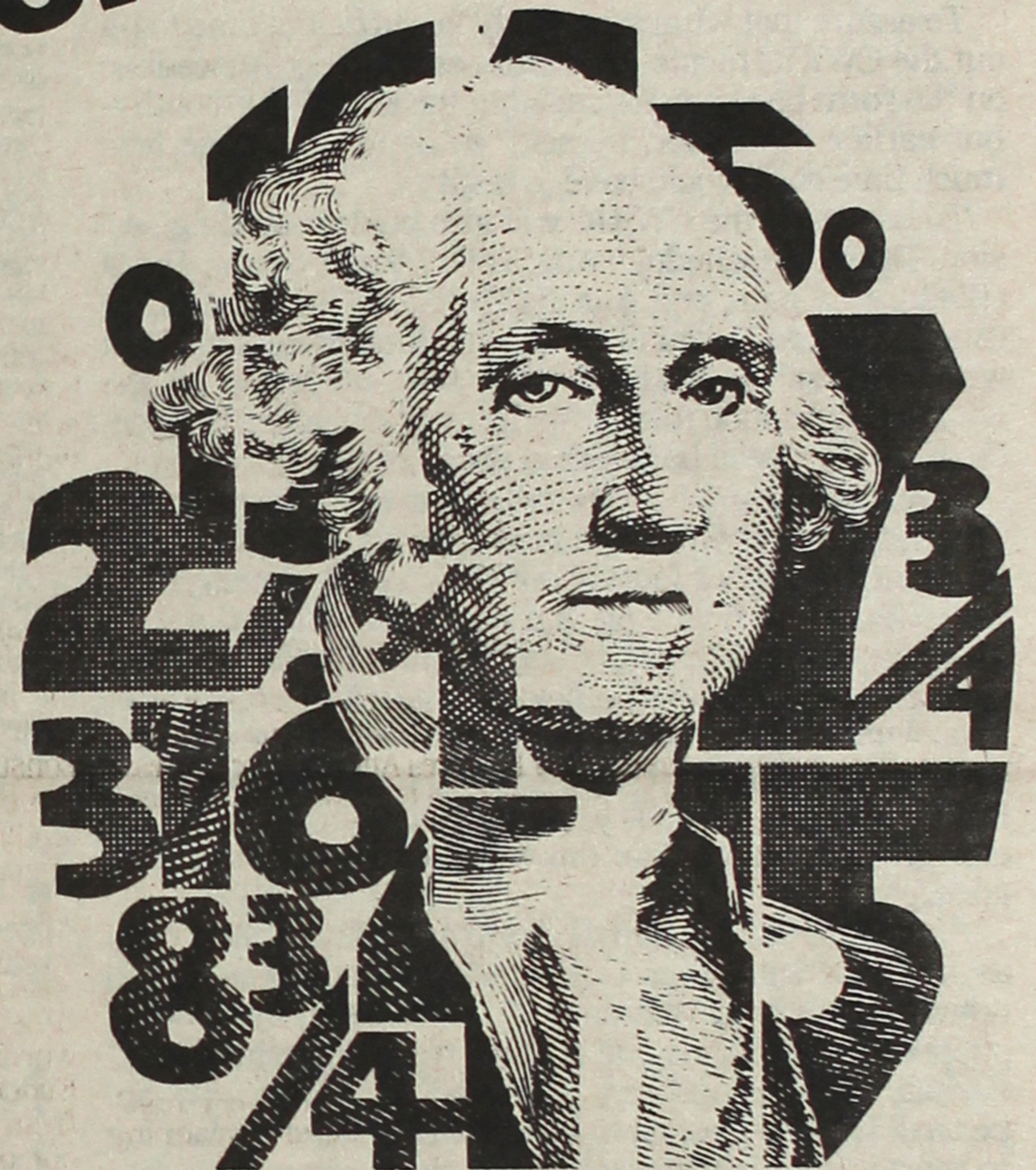
During the entire ten-day fest, over 30 cultural exhibits will be on display at various locations in Little Tokyo, including the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center: Bonsai; Ikebana; Tea Ceremony demonstrations; Japanese family crests; photos; antique swords; Kimekomi dolls; Temari ball; Sumi-E brush painting and calligraphy; embroidery and martial arts demonstrations.

On August 15-16, a carnival featuring games, food and rides will be held and on Aug. 16 between 300-500 Ondo street dancers will wind down Nisei Week with closing ceremonies at 5 p.m.

Maps and calendars of events are available at stores and restaurants throughout Little Tokyo. For info call (213) 687-7193.

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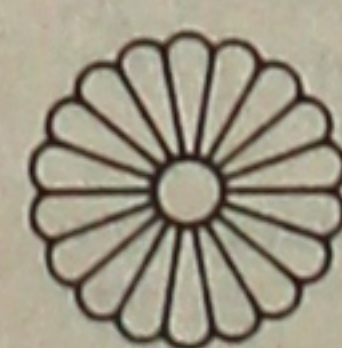


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# pacific citizen

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 DR. CLIFFORD I. UYEDA ..... Chair, Pacific Citizen Board  
 HARRY K. HONDA ..... Editor  
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YE EDITOR'S DESK: by Harry Honda

## CWRIC

The case of first night jitters or goose-bumps is facing the people preparing to testify at the first CWRIC public hearing in Los Angeles in a couple of weeks. CWRIC staff director Paul Bannai, after recounting how the first two sessions went off in Washington, was here this past Sunday to keynote the Pacific Southwest JACL workshop and encourage more people to tell their own story of what happened in the spring of 1942 and what ought to be done to compensate for it.

To assure that witnesses will have sufficient time to fill out the CWRIC forms for witnesses, the July 20 deadline on the form has been extended to the end of the month—but earlier the better, he said, so as to determine how much time each would have to testify.

To its credit, the CWRIC will also hold an evening session. This is the schedule: Aug. 3 (Tu.), 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Aug. 4 (Wed.), 1-9 p.m.; and Aug. 5 (Th.) at the Junipero Serra (State) Bldg. at First and Broadway. Interpreters for Issei witnesses will be available—but also indicate it on the witness application forms. As far as practicable, the agenda of speakers will be released ahead of time.

About having smaller type hearings which might be less "intimidating", it was explained that the CWRIC is government looking for facts about Evacuation, investigating the extent of wrongdoing and damages and to come up with recommendations to Congress to right the situation. Hence, hearings must be held so that all interested can hear what's being said. "We've got to keep it public and open ... nothing secretive," Bannai matter-of-factly put it. The sound system has to be in working order; place big enough to accommodate the witnesses, media and audience, etc.

About CWRIC funds to pay for travel of witnesses, even as key a personage as Gordon Hirabayashi was turned down to appear in Washington. "Only when the CWRIC subpoenas can funds for outside travel be authorized," Bannai added. Thus far, everyone has voluntarily appeared. He was pleased to learn that Portland is planning to charter a bus to take witnesses to the hearings in Seattle.

One innocently asked why witnesses were not "sworn to tell the truth" (like in court) and Bannai explained federal laws assume the truth is being told when addressing congressional or federal hearings and that failure would be punishable much like perjury.

The final point Bannai made was the best—Attitude of commission members who were "the other way" are coming around, especially since the briefing and the first two hearings.

## 35 Years Ago

in the Pacific Citizen

**JULY 27, 1946**  
 July 18—Mainland GIs of 442nd discharged at Ft. Meade, remaining 239 from Hawaii board USS Woodland Victory for voyage home via Panama Canal and to deactivation ceremonies in Honolulu.  
 July 18—Veterans at Univ. of Minnesota abandon plan to build homes in race restricted Oak Hill project for lots in new section in Minneapolis. (All-white clause was found when Jon Matsuo's application was refused.)  
 July 20—Nisei in Hawaii re-enter political races; previous office holders had withdrawn from the 1942 primaries.  
 July 21—Canadian-Issei veterans of WWI (34 left of the 250 who served) petition Ottawa for full restoration of civil rights and rectification of injustices due to forced evacuation from British Columbia.  
 July 17—Bradford Smith, wartime head of Japanese section of Office of War Information, says in current issue of Far Eastern Survey, Navy intelligence had opposed Evacuation as "unnecessary and indefensible", stresses no sabotage committed by Nisei as rumored, and Evacuation was put through in response to racial bias and "large farm operators".  
 July 24—Hawaii Del. Farrington introduces HR 7128, Issei naturalization bill, removing racial bars altogether. (Earlier bill HR 511 would only provide naturalization right to alien parents of

U.S. servicemen.)  
 July 24—Truman urges action on evacuee claims bill, asks passage as "matter of justice to parents, relatives of (Nisei) soldiers". The Ellender-Summers bill calls for a claims commission within Dept. of Interior for indemnification of evacuees to pay for property losses. (Bill approved by Senate judiciary committee; had been considered "dead" until President's message was sent to committee chair Sen. McCarran.)  
 July 25—U.S. District Judge P. McCormick at Seattle rules alien Japanese may enter U.S. as wife of U.S. soldier; (John Bouiss, Portland, Ore., had married aboard a ship enroute home a German-Japanese woman born in Japan who was an interpreter for the U.S. Army.)  
 July 25—Resettlement committee on International Institute (Oakland) seeks help to fight anti-Japanese job discrimination (especially in dry cleaning business).  
 July 26—Eighty-seven Nisei state employees spurn Calif. State Personnel Board offer to dismiss disloyalty charges against them if present claims for backpay were dropped. (Over 400 Nisei in state civil service were pressured following Dec. 7, 1941, to resign; but 87 refused, requesting specific indictments be presented. State then issued disloyalty charges and suspended them. Hearing for reinstatement set Aug. 28-30 at Sacramento.)

## Letterbox

### ● Pre-war JACL leaders

From its inception, JACL was a patriotically orientated organization, pledging allegiance to America without reservation. Among other things it campaigned against dual citizenship and for Americanization of the Kibei. This was to counteract the propaganda barrage unleashed by Jap-baiters like V.S. McClatchy, an A.P. director, that Kibei were "Fifth Columnists" sent in by military Japan. Under these circumstances some JACL leaders might have cooperated with the authorities, had they encountered subversive activities on the part of Issei or Kibei.

However, to say that the JACL was instrumental in compiling an intelligence file on the whole Japanese community is simply bunk (article on Ichioka's speech, PC, June 26). To begin with, the undertaking such as this was too gigantic for them to cope with.

It is my assumption that many Japanese of varying backgrounds cooperated with U.S. intelligence. One such person was Hideo Yamato, king-pin of the Japanese underworld on the Pacific Coast and reportedly a mastermind of the Japanese government intelligence gathering apparatus. When Mayor Fletcher Bowron cleaned out the Los Angeles underworld, Yamato's Tokyo Club, too, was put out of business. He then disappeared "eternally" and nobody knew his whereabouts. In the postwar period, Capt. Toshikazu Omae of the defunct Japanese naval chief of staff confided to me that a Japanese submarine picked up Yamato and his Mexican wife Wanda off the coast of California. (Wanda died in Iwakuni in 1978.) However, when Yamato was tried in absentia in Los Angeles, a U.S. naval intelligence officer appeared as a character witness and testified that Yamato had been passing valuable information to U.S. intelligence. Was the U.S. completely fooled by Yamato or did Yamato play both ends of the game?

At any rate, here is one reputable source that the U.S. had in compiling data on Issei and Kibei.

At a certain government hear-

ing around 1939, the U.S. government released a list of 100 or more names and addresses of Japanese "guntan" (ex-Japanese army officers working as information-gathering agents). I wanted to ascertain the authenticity of this list and paid visits to three or four persons named on the list. To my surprise, I found out the person named on the list actually lived at the given address engaging in some kind of business. Later when I inquired more about this matter, a knowledgeable American told me that the information on the list was originally obtained from the Japanese government sources by Soviet intelligence which in turn handed it over to U.S. intelligence.



## Nat'l Planning Commission's first meeting via telephone

SALT LAKE CITY—A long distance telephone conference was convened May 5 as the first meeting for members of the National JACL Planning Commission, according to IDC representative Yas Tokita reporting in the Mt. Olympus JACL newsletter.

First order of business was to establish objectives, gather input through questionnaires to membership, interviews with selected people, and carry on surveys of other ethnic groups, it was agreed by the eight-member panel chaired by Lillian Kimura of New York. Others on the line were:

J.D. Hokoyama (PSWDC DTLA), JoAnne Kagiwada (MDC/Hoosier), Bessie Konishi (MPDC/San Luis Valley), Izumi & Barbara Taniguchi (CCDC/Fresno), Dr. Clifford Uyeda (NCWNPDC/Golden Gate); Dr. Warren Watanabe (EDC/Philadelphia); and Yas Tokita (IDC/Mt. Olympus).

Tokita submitted the following questions and issues for his district chapters to consider:

- 1—Whether members feel tangible return is obtained for their dues.
- 2—What motivates a person to join the JACL?
- 3—Determine the growth trend, activity level and services provided by the Chapter.
- 4—Status of youth programs.
- 5—Ability of chapters to attract young adults.

It was recognized that National JACL has its problems, such as the year-to-year loss in membership, which means reduced fund, and which will probably lead to higher staff turnover at Headquarters. The Planning Commission is also taking steps to correct the lack of direction, lack of confidence in leadership, aging membership and other problems.

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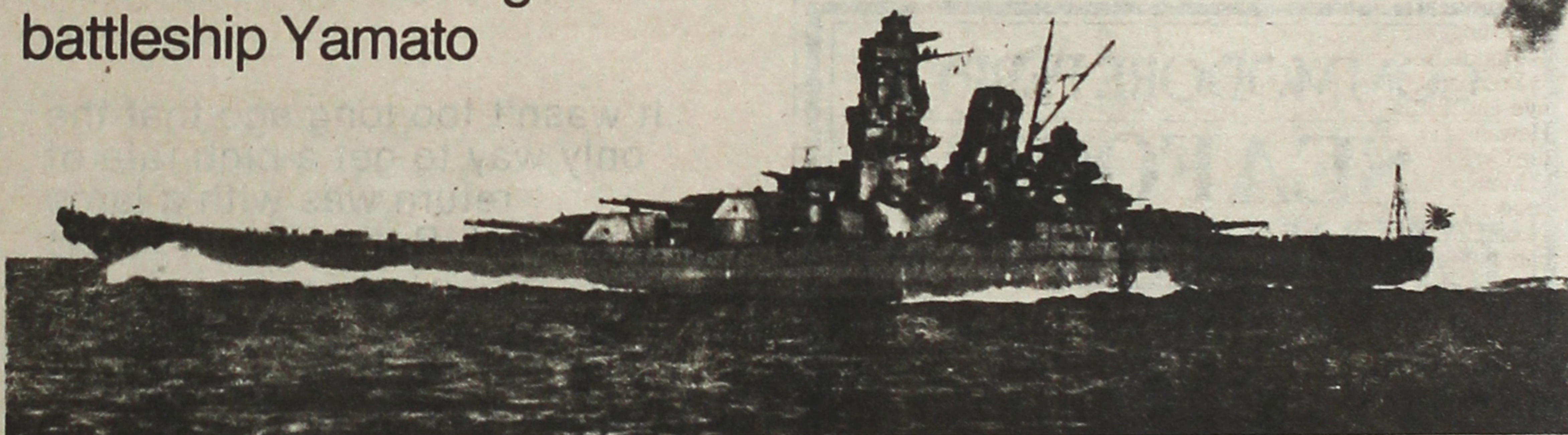
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## Nisei role in scuttling battleship Yamato



Planned to outrun and outgun any ship afloat, the supership was also singularly beautiful

**By KAY TATEISHI**  
**TOKYO**—On an April day in 1945, the super-battleship Yamato, escorted by a light cruiser and eight destroyers, sailed from Tokuyama on Japan's inland sea. It was to be a suicide mission—the last sortie of World War II by the once-powerful imperial Japanese navy that had begun the Pacific war four years earlier at Pearl Harbor.

Among the crewmen in the armada were five American-born Japanese, three aboard the 72,800-ton Yamato—the largest of its time—and two aboard the 8,500-ton escort cruiser Yahagi.

Among the U.S.-born sailors, only Shigeo Yamada, an ensign aboard the Yahagi, would survive the battle that cost 3,665 Japanese lives, the loss of the battleship and five other ships.

Yamada, 57, a recently retired Japan Air Lines executive, was the son of an Idaho potato farmer whose family returned to Japan before the war. He had enrolled in a university, hoping to be exempted from military service, but was drafted into the navy in 1943 when the government mobilized all high school and college students.

The law did not exclude the many U.S.-born Japanese who had dual citizenship because their births were registered with Japanese consulates. Only those whose Japanese nationality had been stricken from the records were able to escape.

Yamada was assigned to the Yahagi as a communications officer, primarily to monitor U.S. radio traffic.

On April 5, Yamato and its escorts were ordered to sea by Admiral Soemu Toyoda, commander-in-chief of the combined fleet. The operation, code-named "Ten-Go," was intended to stop American forces that had invaded Okinawa a week earlier, but it was opposed by many Japanese naval officers.

Japan had only 2,500 barrels of oil for the ships—enough for a one-way voyage. The Yamato, commissioned in December 1941 and a veteran of Midway, the Philippine Sea and Leyte Gulf, was to be beached as diversionary bait. Its big 18 inch (45-SMS) guns with 25-mile range would support Japa-

nese troops on Okinawa. Yamada recalls his commanding officer, Capt. Tameichi Hara, telling officers that the mission was "suicidal." But he said the objective was victory, not suicide, and they were to save themselves if the ship was crippled or sunk. The order ran counter to what they had been taught at naval academy.

At dawn on April 7, the fleet, after moving gingerly through mine-infested Bungo Strait, sailed into the East China Sea off South-eastern Kyushu.

At 8 a.m., heavy rain swept the ship moving in ring formation, with Yamato in the center. An hour later a destroyer dropped out with engine trouble. The others zigzagged south towards Okinawa at 24 knots, evading U.S. submarines.

The last Japanese escort planes turned for home, and the coast of

Kyushu disappeared. The fleet was alone. 175 miles out.

At about 11:30 a.m. 250 planes from U.S. Rear Admiral Marc Mitscher's Task Force 58 loomed out of the clearing overcast and attacked.

Yamada recalls that the Americans "hit us with everything they had," and Yamato replied with its big guns, 150 anti-aircraft guns and 40 machine guns.

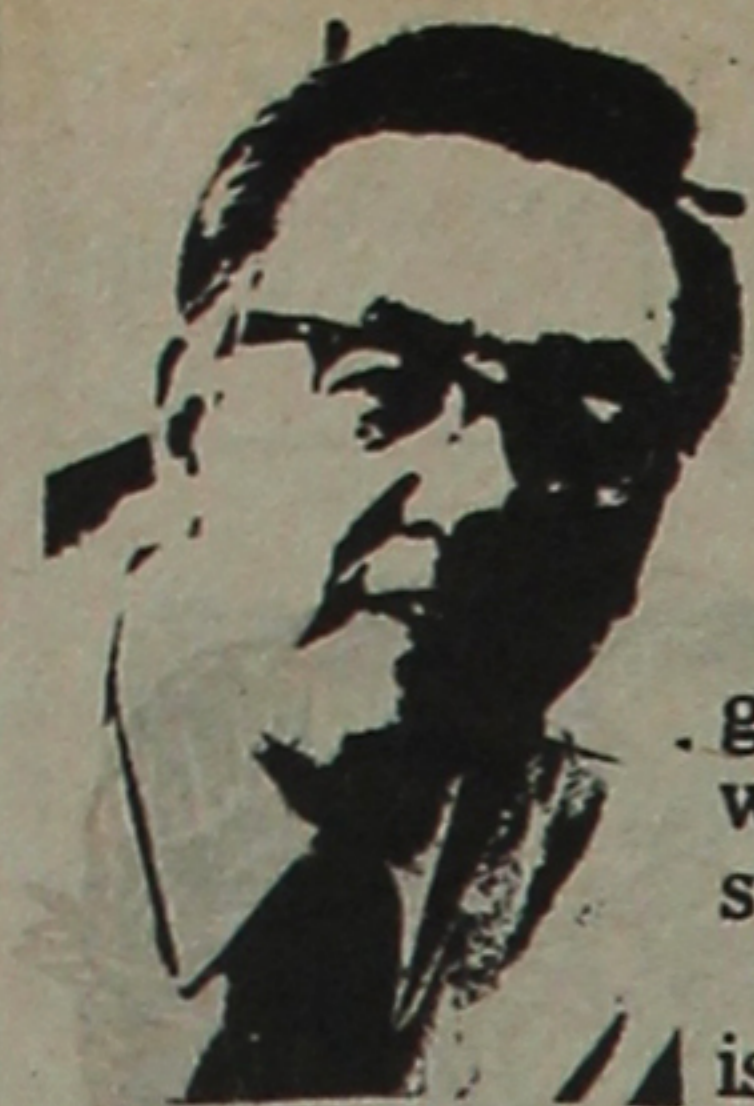
At 12:10 p.m. U.S. planes unleashed two bombs near Yamato's main mast. Then a torpedo ripped its portside.

The Yahagi, also fighting back at the attackers, tried to escape but was hammered by bombs and torpedoes. Explosions blew out the fore-castle and stern. A torpedo plunged into the starboard bow. The cruiser "quivered and rocked" as if "made of paper," and sank, Capt. Hara wrote later.

Continued on Page 8

Kay Tateishi, veteran editor-reporter with the Associated Press office in Tokyo, has been catching up on the Nisei activities during World War II in Japan. This is a missing chapter that needs to be fully covered. As his friends often suggest, stories such as below will help produce this chapter only he can pen.—H.H.

FROM THE FRYING PAN: by Bill Hosokawa



# Frank Matura: Frontier Photographer

Denver, Colo.

Not many persons have heard of Okanogan, Washington. Nor of Frank S. Matura, whose name is linked with Okanogan in a strange and wonderful way.

But let us take first things first. Okanogan is a town in the Okanogan valley, a bleak, parched area in the North-central part of the state of Washington not far from the Canadian border. It is still something of a remote frontier, but it was a much more remote frontier when Frank Matura chanced that way in 1903. He died there ten years later.

What makes Frank Matura of interest is that he was a photographer. He had a remarkable ability to catch the mood and feeling of that harsh, brooding frontier, and he made hundreds of pictures of rare beauty.

When Matura died, all his possessions, including his pictures, came into possession of a local judge who had been his friend. The judge, too, died in time. That was in 1954. Some period later, Matura's pictures were discovered stored in the judge's garage and turned over to the Okanogan County Historical Society.

## CWRIC Continued from Page 2

and equal protection was discussed and a ruling that the Fifth Amendment does contain equal protection rights was rendered. The significance of this point was brought home when Goldberg stated that the Hirabayashi case had been cited in the 1948 case which outlawed restrictive covenants, thereby overturning indirectly and in part the Hirabayashi case.

### Gov't Historians Testify

Army historian Dr. Fred Beck discussed in his testimony the Army's role in the relocation and internment process, indicating that the military was the "single element" that formulated the force of law for the evacuation orders.

Dr. David Trask, historian for the Department of State, said that the Department exercised a moderating influence upon the relocation policy. He added that the State Department assisted the government of Peru in deporting 1,000 of its Japanese residents to U.S. relocation camps.

Orville Shirey, former historian for the 100th/442nd combat units of World War II, placed in to the official record the statement of Gen. Mark Clark, ret., who told of the combat teams' historic exploits in Italy under his command during the war (The CWRIC asked the historians of the departments of Army and State to assist them in obtaining official documents).

### 'Haunt the Conscience of U.S.'

Democratic Sens. Daniel K. Inouye and Spark M. Matsunaga of Hawaii also issued statements to the CWRIC.

Inouye told the commission to "make your report one that will...haunt the conscience of this nation—haunt it so that we will never forget that we are capable of such an act."

Matsunaga said that the damages of the Evacuation could never be fully compensated, but an offer of token compensation to every former internee or legal heir would once again demonstrate that this nation is strong enough to admit its past mistake and make whole, those whom it may have wronged.

Although unable to personally attend the hearings, Congressman Robert Matsui and Norman Y. Mineta of California, in a joint statement, commended the CWRIC.

### Explore the remedies

In opening the hearings, Commissioner Bernstein said that the CWRIC will explore all remedies. Vice chair Lungren, however, ex-

## South Bay Keiro reaches \$750,000

GARDENA, Ca.—The pledges continue to roll in as South Bay Keiro enters Phase II of its Fund Drive. With a strong report of \$75,000 last week, the Drive surpassed the \$750,000 mark, placing it three-quarters of the way towards the \$1,000,000 goal. Contributions of \$20,000 from an anonymous Long Beach resident, and \$12,500 from New Meiji Market set the pace for the latest group of donors.

tended a note of caution to those who would believe that the sole or primary purpose of the CWRIC is to merely determine the extent to which some form of monetary restitution is to be provided to individuals by the government.

Lungren felt compelled to state that Congress would never have started the commission if restitution were to be accepted by the commissioners as the foregone conclusion. The question of monetary redress is, rather, just one issue among many to be considered.

But Lungren did indicate that if some form of restitution is fully warranted, he would carefully consider such proposals on their merits.

Rep. Daniel Akaka of Hawaii, in his statement, suggested "restitution for lost opportunity" in the form of scholarships, grants and awards for the children and grandchildren of the internees, the eligibility being based in part upon the number of years spent in camp.

Rep. Robert McClory of Illinois thought that perhaps some legislative or administrative program would be a more appropriate means of redress.

Other legislators addressing the Commission included Senators Henry Jackson (D-Wa.), Ted Stevens (R-Alaska); Reps. Sidney Yates (D-Ill.), Mervyn Dymally (D-Ca.), George Danielson (D-Ca.), Michael Lowry (D-Wa.) and Cecil Heftel (D-Hawaii).

As the hearings began to wind down, JAACL Redress Committee Chair Min Yasui was allowed to testify on his own behalf, and he told the CWRIC of how he was arrested and sentenced to a year in solitary confinement for defying a curfew which he felt was unconstitutional.

Although Yasui would like to see some form of reparation made to all Americans of Japanese ancestry who suffered from the government's actions, he said, in an emotional statement:

"There is no amount of money that can ever repay us for the kinds of things that we underwent...There is no way that there is a dollar amount that will ever satisfy it."

## HEROIC STRUGGLES

of Japanese Americans



This fall, 135 of Matura's photographs will be published in a large, coffee tabletop book to be called "Frank S. Matura, Frontier Photographer." The pictures have been selected and are being processed by Madrona Publishers of Seattle and a Canadian firm for simultaneous publication.

But the text to accompany the pictures hasn't been completed yet, and that is how I happened to learn about Matura and this project. One night recently I received a call from JoAnn Roe who identified herself as a writer in Bellingham, Wash. She said that while working on a book called "North Cascadians," she came across the Matura photo collection in Okanogan. One thing led to another and the Okanogan County Historical Society invited her to do a book on Matura.

But where does one start to find material about an obscure Japanese immigrant photographer who has been dead now for nearly 70 years? JoAnn Roe picked up bits and pieces and by sheer persistence she finally traced him to Kyushu, the southernmost of the main Japanese islands. She thought that Matura's name might have been Matsuura, but discovered that Matura is a not uncommon name in Kyushu. She also learned that his given name might have been Sakae.

With her deadline approaching and anxious to include as much authentic information as possible about Frank Matura, she has been clucking at straws in her search for information. That led to the telephone call to Denver.

Unfortunately, I couldn't help her. I had never heard of Frank Matura. But perhaps there are others who might have, and so this column is being written in the hope that some reader may know about him first hand, or know of someone who might have heard about him.

At one time, JoAnn Roe says, Matura had been in Alaska. He may have come to Okanogan directly after his Alaskan sojourn, whatever its purpose might have been. Everything she has found so far indicates that he was well-accepted in Okanogan, which wasn't true in many parts of the West.

The Pacific Citizen's readers are many and far-flung. Last fall I wrote a piece about some Japanese families who lived before the war near Bend, Ore., and that column produced letters from descendants, one of whom remembered her petite Issei mother knocking off rattlesnakes with a pistol near their farmhouse.

So there is no telling what kind of information this column will produce for JoAnn Roe. If you have any knowledge of Frank Matura, please write to her at 5041 Meridian Road, Bellingham, Wash., 98225.

MUSUBI: by Ron Wakabayashi

## 'Tough' Explaining

I can't explain it. The phone rings. You pick it up. Say, "hello." The voice at the other end belongs to a Japanese American. I've heard many people say that they can recognize a Japanese American voice on the telephone, no matter what generation the speaker might be.



I can't explain it. Walking down the street in a city like Los Angeles, you pass a number of Asian faces. You decide whether they are Japanese or Chinese or Korean. You even determine whether they are American born or foreign born.

I can't explain it. A bunch of neighborhood kids are making funny sounds mimicking the tones they associate with Asian languages. It makes me mad. Sometimes, I get mixed up whether I am mad that they are making fun of me, or mistaking me for something other than Japanese American that is.

I can't explain it. No matter how much or how little rice that is served at a meal, there are always an equal number of bites of rice to exactly match the amount of okazu that you have.

I can't explain it. I understand it, but I just have a hard time explaining all of the above to a non-Nikkei.

I can't explain it. I understand it, but I just have a hard time explaining all of the above to a non-Nikkei.

EAST WIND: by Bill Marutani



# Perfection, in Hindsight

(Or: "Monday-Morning Quarterbacking") Philadelphia

AMONG SOME MINORITY groups, there is a ready tendency on the part of the newer generation to be hypercritical of much of the actions and stance taken in the past by their elders, particularly as related to matters of civil rights. All too often, some young people assume a posture of righteous indignation and engage in wholesale condemnation of the acts of leaders of past years. However, if one assesses such reaction as manifestation of pent-up energy which, by and large, is expended in ignorance, it becomes considerably more tolerable. In a few more years, after more facts are known and one is possessed with a more stable scale by which to weigh the situation, rhetoric may shift into contemplative thought, which in turn may metamorphose into what is commonly known as wisdom—a rare commodity.

SPEAKING FOR MYSELF for a moment—if you'll excuse the reference—in this one respect, I perceive myself to belong to neither group: I was much too young in the '40s to be consorting with the "leaders" and decision-makers of those days, but not young enough to be allocated to the new generation. One might say that I fell in between; some might even say "between the boards".

IN THE SOCIETY as we know it today, perhaps it may be understandable why the young people cannot or do not comprehend why the Nisei in general, and their "leaders" in particular, were not more militant, more assertive, more whatever. Standing today on the "base" that is today, built up by the dint of hard work, sacrifices, lives on the battlefield by the Nisei; further, by the profound sacrifices and dedication of the Issei who preceded all of us—today, standing on that base, it may be all-too-easy to crow and, alas, to condemn.

THE NIKKEI ARE not alone in this respect. I understand that among our fellow Black Americans, similarly the young engage in condemnatory accusations of their now-aging leaders: Why they permitted themselves to be shunted to the back of the bus; why they stooped to sit at separate lunch counters; why apartheid in general. Yes, it is very easy to say...if you weren't there at those times, those places, under those circumstances.

AS I THINK back, even in my own limited life, I could only longingly dream of those things to which I aspired, which today's generation of Nikkei accept as granted. To take but one mundane—now mundane—example: I dreamt and worked to break the barrier of entering the U.S. Military Academy, West Point. That was one of many barriers that had to be breached, a hill to climb, before one could then seek to ascend the next higher mountain.

WERE WE TO GIVE any advice to the young Nikkei of today, it would be simply this: Don't look back and condemn, in ignorance, the past actions of the leaders that preceded you; rather, take a base which the Issei and Nisei have provided for you, created at great sacrifices that you may not understand but upon which you so gloriously stand, and move ahead. Build. #

## Bookshelf

### Manzanar Pilgrimage

A collective effort and a labor of love of the Manzanar Committee, this photo-essay, A TIME FOR SHARING (\$6.50, Manzanar Committee, Los Angeles) represents a decade of involvement, inspired by the photographs by Mei Valenzuela of the many pilgrimages. While wartime pictures of the

campsite abound in the archives and memories are etched in the minds of its inmates, the 420 page booklet, its cover in color, updates all that with a portrayal of the sensitivity of a generation struggling to experience a bleak but unique moment in American history.—HH.

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**● Medicine**

Nassau County (Long Island, N.Y.) deputy chief medical examiner for the past 20 years, **Dr. Minoru Araki**, a pathologist, was in the news in late February when a heart ailment from a virus was linked to the death of a second grader at Chestnut Hill School. He did not believe there was a threat to public health, but parents were wary and kept their children at home for several days.

**Dr. Yoshio Nakashima**, JACL district governor in Northern California and San Francisco city planning commissioner, was installed president of the San Francisco Dental Society.

**Raymond N. Umeda** was awarded the Doctor of Optometry degree, Cum Laude, at the Illinois College of Optometry's 138th commencement May 31. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Taro Umeda of San Jose, Ca.

**Dr. Harold S. Harada**, Culver City dentist, was elected secretary of the California Dental Assn. He is a past president of the Western Dental Society, the So. Calif. Japanese American Dental Society, and serves as expert examiner for the State Board of Dental Examiners.

**Florin pre-reunion**

SACRAMENTO, Ca.—To help accommodate Issei guests for the Florin Area reunion Oct. 10, a fund-raising dance will be held on Saturday, Sept. 19, 9 p.m. at the Florin Buddhist Church, it was announced by Bill Kashiwagi (916-635-2815).

**New York scholars win JACL/JAA awards**

NEW YORK—Five graduating high school seniors were awarded scholarships in joint presentation ceremonies by the JACL New York Chapter and the Japanese American Association.

The JACL Lucile Nakamura Memorial Scholarship of \$500 was awarded to Sono J. Motoyama, a graduate of Hempstead H.S. who will study psychology at Brown University. The JACL \$500 General Scholarship was given to Ikuo Hirano, an Irvington H.S. graduate who will attend Yale University.

The JAA scholarship awardees were: Alan Norman Williams, Ramapo H.S. (\$700); Junko Amy Ishihara, Francis Lewis H.S. (\$500); and Kent Suzuki, Great Neck South H.S. (\$300).

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Fresno: 6-Nobuo Mori.  
Gardena Valley: 4-Thomas Y. Kamidoi, 28-Ronald I. Shiozaki.  
Gresham-Troutdale: 17-Shigenari Nagae.  
Livingston-Merced: 26-Fred M. Hashimoto.  
Marin: 2-Patti Paganini.  
Mil-Hi: 22-James H. Imatani\*, 30-D. Tom K. Kobayashi.

**Son follows dad in decathlon competition**

PHILADELPHIA—Irving and Momoe Mondschein, their son Brian were in Israel recently for the Maccabee Games, where Brian participated in the decathlon; his dad coached the U.S. team. Irv is remembered as a three-time U.S. decathlon champion. The trip was especially meaningful for Irv because he coached the first Israeli track & field team for the new nation at the 1952 Olympics. The Mondscheins are Philadelphia JACL members.

Milwaukee: 11-Henry K. Kanazawa.  
New York: 25-William K. Sakayama, 14-Shigeru Tasaka.  
Oakland: 30-Dr. Charles M. Ishizu.  
Omaha: 9-Edward F. Ishii.  
Pasadena: 25-Ted K. Kawata, 20-George T. Yusa.  
Philadelphia: 25-Dr. Warren H. Watanabe.  
Sacramento: 19-Howard Yamagata.  
Saint Louis: 26-Dr. George M. Tanaka.  
San Diego: 28-Martin L. Ito.  
San Fernando Valley: 7-Marvin Kroner, 32-Ira Shimasaki.  
San Francisco: 11-George Yamasaki, Jr.  
San Jose: 14-Perry Dobashi, 14-Yosh Kikuchi, 1-Joyce M. Mineta.  
San Mateo: 28-Tad T. Masaoka.  
Seabrook: 9-Shingo Kajinami.  
Seattle: 13-Smith Y. Hayami, 26-Heitaro Hikida, 8-William Kobayashi.  
Selma: 1-Al Kataoka.  
Sequoia: 24-Hiroji Kariya.  
Stockton: 28-Harry S. Hayashino, 22-George J. Nakashima.  
Twin Cities: 25-Sumiko Teramoto.  
Venice-Culver: 28-Fred Hoshiyama, 13-Sam Shimoguchi.

West Los Angeles: 26-George A. Okamoto.  
National: 1-Loyola Marymount University.  
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**State says grower owes overtime pay**

SAN DIEGO—Ukegawa Bros., Inc., one of the largest tomato growers in the nation, owes more than \$275,000 in overtime wages from 1980 to some 2,000 workers, according to a six-month audit by the California Standards Enforcement Division.

The overtime assessment is one of the largest involving a California grower, and is an interim step before the state orders the company to make restitution to the tomato and strawberry pickers, said state division director Joe Razo.

Last December, at a Deer Canyon illegal alien camp, the state discovered numerous check stubs showing overtime wages allegedly not being paid for hours worked

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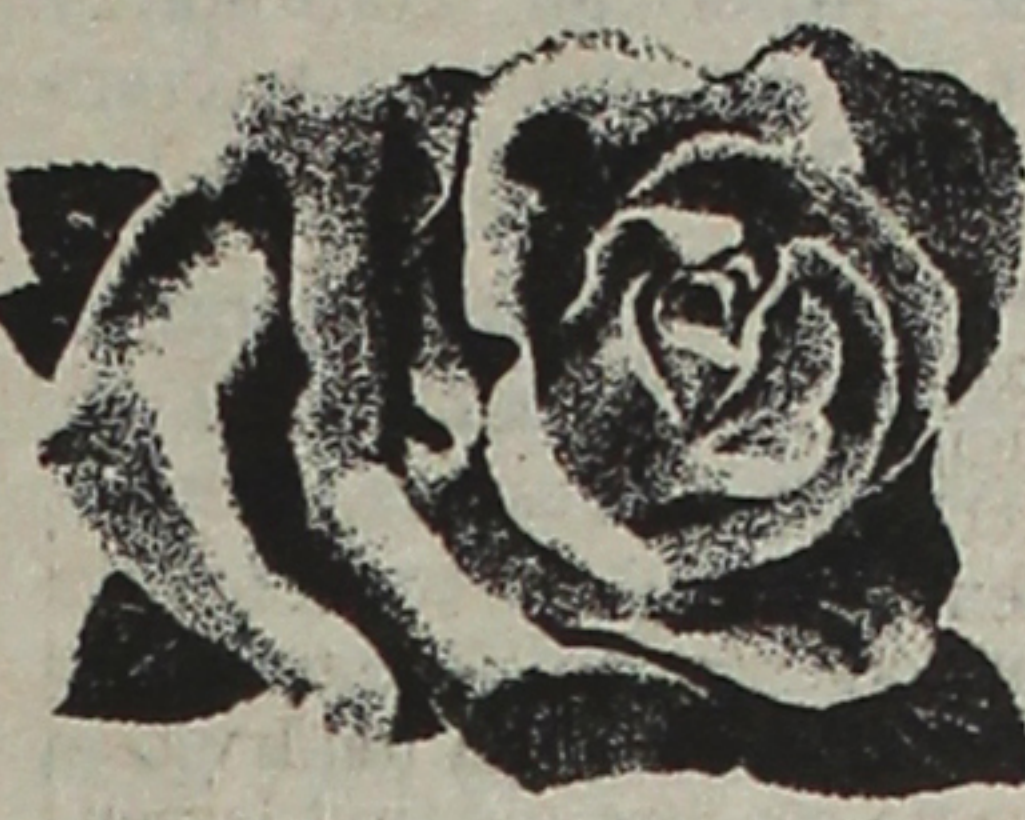
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beyond the 60-hour week, according to Razo. The company usually employs about 1,000 people, but the turnover rate is high, which accounts for some 2,000 workers being owed about \$138 each, state officials said.

Richard Paul, an attorney for Ukegawa Bros., said June 19 that the company will conduct its own audit of the state examinations be-

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**Retirement Home benefit**  
LOS ANGELES—The annual benefit held June 6 for the Japanese Retirement Home here and sponsored by the Friends of the Japanese Retirement Home, grossed over \$50,000 in a happy picnic atmosphere.

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# U.S. appeals court upholds law school minority access

NEWARK, N.J.—The U.S. appellate court last month (June 23) affirmed the federal district court's decision to dismiss an affirmative action suit by an unsuccessful white applicant seeking admission at Rutgers University Law School here, the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund reported.

Robert Doherty, who challenged the school's admission program, asserted he was denied admission because less qualified applicants were admitted under the minority student program. It had been pointed out by AALDEF and counsel for the university that Doherty did not meet the criteria needed for acceptance.

Issue before the appellate court was whether an applicant to a state university law school may challenge the school's admission policy even though the district court found he was not qualified to have been accepted in the absence of the affirmative action program he challenges.

AALDEF hailed the decision as "a triumph" for Asian Americans and affirmative action. Rutgers' minority admission policies includes Asian Americans, other minorities and disadvantaged whites.

## 6004th Air Intelligence Sq. reunion nears

LOS ANGELES—Former members of the 6004th, 6002nd, 6499th and 7602nd Squadrons, will gather over Labor Day weekend at the New Otani Hotel to celebrate their 30th anniversary of the organization of the 6004th Air Intelligence Service Squadron.

Attached to the Far East Air Force headquarters in Tokyo during the Korean War, over 100 Nisei officers, airmen and civilians worked as interpreters, interrogators, editors, translators and technical analysts.

The agenda for the reunion includes dinner-dance at the Otani and tours. Former officers, airmen as well as the Department of the Air Force civilians received from Japan, Hawaii and mainland U.S.A. are expected stated Mrs. Jane Matsuda, Reunion chairperson. For information contact Matsuda at (213) 325-5514, 23736 Livewood Lane, Harbor City, CA 90710.

## YAMATO

Continued from Page 4

Six miles away, Yamato, after taking 12 torpedoes rolled on its beam at 2:15 p.m. and disappeared in minutes.

The Japanese navy often used the term "Gochin" (sink instantaneously) to describe earlier victories against allied ships.

"I didn't believe such things happened. But it did—right before my eyes," says Yamada, who found himself clinging to debris in oil-covered waters and was rescued by one of the remaining destroyers.

The Japanese lost 2,498 men from Yamato, 446 from Yahagi and 721 from four destroyers in the two-hour battle. The Americans lost 10 planes and 12 airmen.

Yamada finished the war monitoring U.S. aircraft movements from a base north of Tokyo. "We caught the flight patterns regularly but were helpless. We didn't have anything left," Yamada recalls.

Today, Yamada says he still grieves over the loss of many friends, but "I feel lucky that I can recall the ordeal as an experience of yesterday."

## Nisei Week Fashion Show theme on 'L.A.'

LOS ANGELES—"I Like L.A." is the theme of the 1981 Nisei Week Fashion Show luncheon to be held Sunday, Aug. 2, 12 n. at the International Ballroom of the Beverly Hilton Hotel, sponsored by the Montebello Japanese Womens Club of CFWC. Donation \$25 per person, proceeds to the South Bay Keiro Nursing Home. For reservations call (213) 723-4919 or 728-3134.

# SAN JOSE

Continued from Front Page

termining how much time a defendant had served in jail.

Michael Honda, of Asian Americans for Community Involvement, demanded by letter that Terry apologize to Arima, Horiuchi and the "general Asian community."

Having previously apologized privately, to the two officers, Terry said from his bench, "I wish to reiterate my apology. No malice or personal affront was intended."

He added, "This apology is further extended to the Japanese American community and the greater Asian community."

Before making the public apology, Terry said there was never any malicious intent in the statement. "I regret it occurred... I would never want to do anything to hurt them (Arima and Horiuchi) or give the impression that I had anything other than the greatest respect of admiration for the Japanese community," he said.

Horiuchi said Terry's remarks were "a personally demeaning and humiliating experience. I feel it is beyond a personal exchange and was directed at a race."

## Koreisha to hold Luau at Nishi

LOS ANGELES—The Koreisha Chushoku Kai will hold a Luau on Friday, July 31, 10 a.m. at the Nishi Hongwanji Recreation Hall, 815 E. First St. Donation \$1.50 (Sr. Citizens), \$3.00 (Guests under 60). For info call (213) 680-9173.

## ST. LOUIS

Continued from Front Page

Participants in the redress session will include Henry Tanaka (Cleveland), Minoru Yasui, and Paul Bannai. Major areas of consideration include overall preparation for the regional hearings including testimony preparation and aspects of public relations as they relate to the educational value of the commission.

Bannai will keynote the Saturday (August 1) luncheon. Tsujimura and Wakabayashi will take part in the Saturday evening banquet which will feature the installation of new officers from both the Midwest and Eastern districts. This program will also include the presentation of JACL service recognitions and sapphire pins. The film "Hito Hata" will be shown following the banquet.

A variety of booster activities including a 1000 Club Whing Ding are scheduled. Specific activities for JAYs include an outing to Six Flags amusement park. Reservations may be secured through Betty Sakaguchi, 9109 Rusticwood Trail, St. Louis, MO 63126.

# Wife-slayer sentenced to 15-to-life

SACRAMENTO, Ca.—David Seiji Asahara, a Japanese American chiropractor who told police that he struck his dying wife in the head with a fireplace poker when she was "three-quarters gone", was sentenced June 22 to 15 years to life in state prison.

Superior Court Judge John J. Boskovich imposed the sentence on Asahara, 44, who pleaded guilty to second-degree murder for the Jan. 10,

1980 killing. Asahara said an argument about their washing machine sparked the murder. He said he strangled and beat his wife, according to the pre-sentence report.

The decomposed body of Asahara's wife, Kaoru, 40, was discovered April 6, 1980 by the convicted killer's brother at the couple's home garage.

Mrs. Asahara had suffered five blows with a blunt instrument to the back of her head, but the coroner had listed strangulation as the probable cause of death. Police found two neckties tied around Mrs. Asahara's neck, with another tied around her waist.

## West Covina Obon festival Aug. 9

WEST COVINA, Ca.—The 13th Obon Festival sponsored by the West Covina Buddhist Church will be held Sunday, Aug. 9, 12 n. to 10 p.m. at the East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center, 1203 W. Puente Ave. For info call (213) 337-9123.

Boskovich had rejected the conclusions of three psychiatrists who said Asahara was legally insane at the time of the murder. The judge ruled that Asahara understood the criminality of his act.

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