

Seminar to mark S.F. school segregation edict of 1906

SAN FRANCISCO—A community gathering commemorating the 75th anniversary of the 1906 San Francisco Board of Education's order to segregate Japanese American students from the city's schools will be held on Oct. 11, 1 p.m. at the Konko Church social hall.

The program is being organized as a project of a Japanese American

'Stop payment' ruse strikes merchants

LOS ANGELES—Little Tokyo merchants have become wary of a lady from the Atwater area (Zip 90039) of the city—Mrs. Fukiko Nakashima Takamine—who allegedly makes purchases, pays for them by checks, and before the checks clear the bank, places a "stop payment" order with the bank.

The store owner proceeds to contact the lady by mail and phone, but all efforts thus far have proven futile.

The amounts range from \$200 to \$500 and one merchant cashed a check without purchase.

The practice has been referred to the Little Tokyo Businessmen's Association for further action.

Sansei named to U.S. board of Amnesty International

LOS ANGELES—Amnesty International USA has elected Bill Watanabe of Los Angeles to its national board of directors in a vote of the members recently. He is the first Asian American to serve on the U.S. Board of Directors.

Amnesty International, which has over 10,000 members in the U.S. and over 200,000 members world-wide, is an international human rights organization. It is dedicated to help those who have been imprisoned solely for their race, religion or ideas, and also works for the abolition of torture and the abolition of capital punishment. Its efforts were recognized in 1977 when it was the recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize that year.

Currently the executive director of the Little Tokyo Service Center in Los Angeles, the 37-year-old Sansei community worker stated, "It is my hope to make more Asian Americans aware of the fine work that Amnesty International does in the field of human rights. Having been born in a concentration camp, I feel a burden for repressive governments."

Watanabe added that those who would like more information about Amnesty International can call him at the Little Tokyo Service Center, 680-3729.

L.B. Mayor Sato mugged again

LONG BEACH, Ca.—Mayor Eunice N. Sato, who was robbed and assaulted by two muggers in Los Angeles less than a year ago, was again the victim of robbery, this time at shotgun point, last month.

Police said the Nisei mayor was robbed in the parking lot of the Silverado United Methodist Church where she had been attending a meeting. She was sitting in her car talking to the Rev. Richard Edgar, who was standing next to her automobile, when two youths in their late teens ran up to the couple.

One of the young bandits pointed a shotgun at the pastor while the other took his billfold containing \$80, police said.

At that point, according to authorities, Sato locked the car door and rolled her window up.

The armed youth pointed his gun at her through the window and said, "Open up the door or I'll shoot." She complied and her purse was taken.

The two robbers then "ran like jackrabbits" and police said that the mayor pursued them in her car, but lost them as they jumped into a parked car and sped away. Police said her empty purse was later found in an apartment complex.

Sato said she feared for the minister during the robbery. "At

can studies class at San Francisco State University and will include a panel discussion on contemporary educational issues in the San Francisco Japanese American community.

The seminar is partially funded by a grant from the California Council for the Humanities and the National Endowment for the Humanities. Professor Jim Okutsu, project director, said that the purpose of the symposium is to remember the significant event in Nikkei history and to compare it to the education of the city's Nikkei students today.

On Oct. 11, 1906, the San Francisco Board of Education had issued a resolution removing the 93 Japanese American students from the regular public schools and ordered them to attend a special "Oriental" school. The Japanese Americans in the city reacted and refused to comply with the order and instead sent the students to a school set up at Nihon gakuen, located at the site now occupied by JAACL National Headquarters.

The incident had international repercussions which involved U.S. and Japanese governments and affected the immigration of Japanese to America.

Supreme Court's actions of Evacuation a major concern of many before CWRIC

By PETER IMAMURA
(First in a Series)

Los Angeles

As the scheduled hearings of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians draw to a close (with additional hearings tentatively set for New York and again in Washington), the question arises as to what information can be drawn from the hearings so far. The tears, jeers, publicity and criticism may be fading away, but it is still necessary to ask if this trip was really necessary.

Although there is much information on the Evacuation already well documented in many books, the CWRIC may have also gathered some important material. It may be worth reviewing some of the testimonies and dialogues of the hearings in



Commissioner Arthur J. Goldberg

the context of the categories they fall into, beginning with the legal, or illegal, aspects of the Evacuation. The selected hearing material that follows are examples of how the greatest obstacles within the redress issue—the Supreme Court decisions against Hirabayashi, Yasui and Korematsu—can be dealt with.

Hirabayashi vs. the U.S.

During the Washington hearings on July 14, Gordon Hirabayashi, who challenged the 1942 wartime curfew and exclusion orders against persons of Japanese ancestry, reminded the CWRIC the U.S. Supreme Court ruled 8-0 a curfew may be imposed against one group of citizens solely on the basis of ancestry.

Of the decision against him, Hirabayashi noted:

"... the Court, in essence left, what appears to me a prominent loophole, in their logic, they seemed to say, first major premise: 'Where there is a compelling social circumstance, individual rights must give way;

'Exclusion from specified areas and detention in confined zones may be necessary for military security;

'And the conclusion, therefore, all persons of Japanese ancestry must be uprooted and detained in camps.'

Hirabayashi agreed with the first two premises of the Court, noting that "where a group, including a government, is confronted with an emergency situation, individuals must give way, and all through history they have done that, and they must take certain kinds of emergency steps which may confine individual freedom."

But then he said: "What I can't understand was this, and why I refused to go along with it, was after stating those emergency situations, in a situation where we did not even have martial law, they go and pick a particular small population, purely on the basis of ancestry, and make them subject to a statute or an order purportedly for espionage and sabotage protection."

Goldberg Responds

As in response, Commissioner Arthur J. Goldberg, himself a former Supreme Court Justice, told Hirabayashi in an ensuing dialogue that "it may be of some comfort to you to know that the Supreme Court has in effect overruled at least part of your decision directly" and pointed out that in the Hirabayashi case, the Court said that "the Fifth Amendment contains no equal protection clause, and restrains only such discriminatory legislation by Congress as [it] amounts to denial of due process."

Goldberg then noted: "Well, that is no longer the law. Right after the Court decided Brown vs. Board of Education, separate but equal doctrine appeared in the District of Columbia, and the same argument was made relying upon your case, saying the Fifth Amendment contains no equal protection clause."

"The Court then held, in a case called [Bolling vs. Sharpe], Chief Justice [Earl] Warren wrote the opinion, that the statements in your case, Hirabayashi, is wrong law; that the due process clause in the Fifth Amendment, even though unlike the 14th, it does not contain express language on an equal protection clause; the Fifth Amendment due process provision incorporates the concepts of equal protection.

"So you have related—I don't know how much happiness it gives you—you have the satisfaction of knowing that the state-

ment that they made [was] very important to your case: the Japanese were singled out."

Goldberg then told Hirabayashi, "... the statements made in your case no longer is the law; it is now expressly recognized that the Fifth Amendment does contain an equal protection clause."

PC FOCUS

Goldberg also emphasized this fact about the Fifth Amendment to Lillian Baker of Gardena, during the July 16 session. He told Baker that "the curfew law decision (Hirabayashi, Yasui) would just not hold water today..."

Noting that the Korematsu case (which ruled that a group of citizens may be singled out, expelled from their homes and imprisoned without trial, based solely on ancestry) had never been overruled, but noted:

"Well, you know, it's a strange thing, alien and sedition laws in our country, which muzzled the press right at the beginning of our republic, have never been overruled."

Baker, who felt that the Supreme Court was the final arbiter as to the legality of the Evacuation, reminded Goldberg that when Hirabayashi was decided, "we were under different conditions and we had a different Court then. But still we were a country and are a country of laws and compassion."

To which the commissioner replied, "But we're not a country which believes, you know, following mistakes, [and] the Supreme Court [has] overruled the opinions of mistaken laws, and as pointed out in the alien and sedition laws—"

Baker, changing the subject, interrupted, "Your honor, I want to make it perfectly clear that what I'm reporting today is not a personal viewpoint. I came here representing an organization."

Hinting Congressional Remedies

Baker told the Commission that they have "no power to overturn a Supreme Court edict" and that "only the Supreme Court can do that."

Goldberg agreed, reminding her that the CWRIC has no power at all, as it can only recommend.

"The Supreme Court must reverse itself, it has had 40 years to do it, it never has," said Baker. "And so it is then the purpose of some, not this Commission, to propose laws to usurp that power, to lose the separation—"

On another fundamental point on a government of laws, Goldberg interjected, noting to Baker: "Forgive me again, as an historian, there's nothing in our Constitution, and nothing in Korematsu which would prevent Congress from enacting remedial legislation. All that the Supreme Court said in Korematsu was that their conception of Executive Order in the then existing legislation authorized the Executive Order. Then, however, and you've read the opinion, the opinion makes very clear that it would be within the competence of Congress to decide otherwise. See, so it isn't a question of overturning. This Commission supports Congress."

Baker then pointed out to Goldberg that there is a difference between the Court "overturning" and "reversing" itself.

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YE EDITOR'S DESK: by Harry Honda

PC Subscription Policy

For the past decade [and we have been quiet about it in print—hoping in-house discussion would accomplish the mission, but so many changes have occurred in-house within this period that perhaps it's time to say this "on the front page" so that everyone knows this before they might come on board in-house], we have conscientiously strived to maintain our 2nd Class mailing privileges by explaining:

(1) JACLers can subscribe to the PC on a one-per-household basis as a portion of the membership dues allows for subscription if they so choose, there being no reduction in the dues if a member chooses not to subscribe for whatever reason; [This policy was established by the JAACL National Council in 1960, hence the PC is not free and PC has a legitimate set of paid subscribers—a firm requirement for any newspaper seeking 2nd Class mailing privileges.]

(2) A year's PC subscription runs a 12 full months, since there is no less-than-year membership rate and the Post Office says if a person subscribes for a full year, it shall be so or we jeopardize our 2nd Class mailing privileges; [Because JAACL regular memberships expire at the end of the calendar year, this has confused some to think the PC subscription period extending beyond Jan. 1 is concurrent with JAACL membership when, in fact, their membership had expired on Dec. 31, thus risking the status of their health insurance which insists on current membership being in force.]

(3) PC subscription through JAACL membership is non-transferable (the reason being to insure and boost membership by including the PC, which till 1960 JACLers subscribed separately).

(4) And any upsetting of this delicate JAACL subscription policy procedure only jeopardizes PC's 2nd Class mailing privileges. Such a loss would mean going Nonprofit Bulk Rate 3rd Class—admittedly less costly to the organization but ruinously late from a reader standpoint. Who wants a PC whose arrival in the mailbox would be irregular at best, come in bunches and several weeks late?

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Redress Reports

Angus MacBeth named CWRIC special counsel

WASHINGTON—Angus MacBeth, a partner in the Washington, D.C. law firm of Bergson, Borkland, Margolis and Adler, was named special counsel on the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, Commission Chair Joan Z. Bernstein announced Sept. 28.

"The Commission is fortunate to obtain the services of someone with the experience and established leadership qualities of Angus MacBeth," said Bernstein. "His investigative experience and his strong analytical and legal skills will be of tremendous value as the commission completes the hearing process and prepares its report and recommendation for the President and Congress."

MacBeth intends to focus

● For the Record

The Colorado-born Sansei who testified at the CWRIC hearings in Anchorage was RON Inouye, not Roy—which is the name of his father, founder of the San Luis Valley JACL in Alamosa in 1947.

immediately on the compilation of references of reparation and restitution precedents in order to advise the commission on the critical issues of redress. Describing the task as difficult, "it must be dealt with in the context of sound legal history and precedent," MacBeth said.

Personal Background

MacBeth, who will assume his duties at the commission immediately, served in the U.S. Dept. of Justice as a deputy assistant attorney general from 1979 to 1981. Earlier he served as Chief, Pollution Control Section of the Land and Natural Resources Division of the Dept. of Justice from 1977 to 1979.

From 1975 to 1977 MacBeth was Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York and from 1970 to 1975 he served as staff attorney of the Natural Resources Defense Council in New York City. He also served as a law clerk to Judge Harold R. Tyler, Jr., of the U.S. District Court of the Southern District of New York from 1969 to 1970.

A member of the New York and District of Columbia bars, Mac-

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Aleuts weld Native American and Slavic traditions

By REV. MICHAEL OLEKSA

Anchorage, Alaska

Although the initial contact with Russian frontiersmen and entrepreneurs was characterized by bloodshed and oppression, the condition of the Aleut People was significantly improved after the arrival of the Orthodox Mission in 1794, and especially after the coming of St. Innocent Veniaminov in 1824 and Father Yakov Netsvetov, a Native of Atka, a few years later. Not only did the Fathers defend the Native people from exploitation at the hands of their unscrupulous countrymen, but they also established bi-lingual schools in which Aleuts were taught to read and write their own language as well as a productive trade or profession.

Aleuts were regularly sent to Irkutsk or even St. Petersburg to continue their education so that by the time of the sale of Alaska (1867) to the United States, there were scores of Aleut "college graduates" who built and navigated ships, charted unmapped regions (including Alaska's Arctic coastline), taught in dozens of village schools, propagated the Christian Faith, painted icons and portraits, performed in orchestras and chamber ensembles, and composed poetry in Aleut and Russian languages.

One Aleut, a Major General in the Russian army, became governor of Ayan, on the Siberian coast, and published one of the first atlases of the Pacific Rim. Without exaggeration, the last decades of so-called "Russian" rule could more accurately be called the ALEUT period of Alaskan history, since the cultural synthesis of Native American and Slavic traditions produced here a virtual explosion of Aleut artistic and intellectual creativity.

The central factor in this synthesis was the Orthodox Church which, for this reason, has remained the dominant religious faith of the entire region.

It is therefore no surprise to find an Orthodox priest sitting on this Commission. Nor should it come as a surprise to learn how the Attu Aleuts, taken prisoner by the Japanese, hid and buried their small parish treasury of \$388.20 throughout their years in exile in order to return to their island and rebuild their church. Aleuts throughout the "Chain" attempted to salvage whatever they could of church property, as at Unalaska where Anfesnia Shapsnikof supervised the burial of icons and even chandeliers, thus saving this heritage, now a National Landmark, for future

generations. The Attu village and chapel were never rebuilt, however.

While the Japanese army was responsible for the destruction of the church building at Attu, most of the other chapels were destroyed or looted by American forces. The churches at Atka, where Father Netsvetov opened the first Aleut bilingual school in 1829, and at Amchitka were bombed by our own aircraft in the effort to clear the islands of all possible shelter, should the enemy advance eastward. The chapel at Eagle Harbor, on Kodiak Island, however, was destroyed by American planes who selected it for target practice. The cemetery at Meshik (Port Heiden today) was bulldozed and the church converted into a generator shed by the Military.

When asked many years later why no one protested at the time, the Aleuts replied, "In those days, sir, no one ever talked back to a White Man."

There is no way to restore the loss of property, still less of dignity or self-esteem the Aleuts have suffered, but certainly the deliberate (and often unnecessary) destruction of their places of worship together with their priceless contents, requires some redress. The hand-written icons and church furnishings which were donated to the Alaskan Mission by Orthodox People of Tsarist Russia and later stolen from Aleut homes and churches by troops stationed in Alaska to defend them, have been scattered to the ends of the earth. (One small collection from the chapel at Biorka and recently acquired by the Anchorage Fine Arts Museum was estimated by the curator to be valued today at over a quarter million dollars). Certainly some indemnity is due all parties involved in this tragic situation and this includes the Orthodox Church as the repository of so much that is admirable and, indeed, eternal, in traditional Aleut life.

It is our belief that the religious art that was taken from our churches and homes was not our own but God's, and the Church as the "caretaker" for these sacred things asks the help of the Federal Government in locating, procuring and returning this religious and cultural heritage of the Aleut People to the Alaskan diocese. We also ask that some reparation be made for the irreparable damage to life, property and dignity suffered by the Aleut People in the name of justice.

Fr. Oleksa, Orthodox Diocese of Alaska, is assistant professor of religious and value studies at Alaska Pacific Univ., Anchorage.

REDRESS Continued from Previous Page

So Goldberg continued:

"Congress cannot pass laws which take away fundamental rights protected by the Bill of Rights; it would be unconstitutional for Congress to do so. But the courts and Congress have the right to enlarge the scope of protection for people, and of course Congress has clean area authority to say someone was abused, they do it every day—they file private bills and they say so and so was wrongfully treated by the government, and we give them an award. Even when the Supreme Court decides that the award wasn't justified.

"See, that is not beyond the competence of Congress. One thing Congress cannot do is take away the protections afforded to us by the Constitution. That Congress may not do... But Congress has absolutely clean area rights to exercise its authority to enlarge the scope of constitutional protection; it may not contract."

Writ of Error Coram Nobis

Goldberg, perhaps, suggested that Congress may be able to legally correct the erroneous decisions made against the Japanese Americans by the Supreme Court during the war. However, in Los Angeles, attorney Frank Chuman suggested that the Supreme Court may be able to correct itself. On Aug. 4, he recommended that the Commission urge a review of the Hirabayashi, Korematsu and Yasui cases through a Writ of Error Coram Nobis, a rarely-used procedure handed down from English Common Law to American law that, in effect, corrects a judgement in the same court in which it was rendered, on the ground of error of fact.

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JACL member subscription rate is based on ACTUAL COST of presswork, mailing and direct office expenses (labels, handling, staff, share of rent, telephone, supplies) which this year averages to around 14.6¢ per copy (7.1¢ postage; 3.5¢ presswork) or \$7.30 a year. [Note: regular PC subscription rate is \$16 per year, \$8 additional if foreign, even for JACLers.] We don't ask for more than such actual costs since PC advertising and miscellaneous income is expected to cover the remainder of the expenses—editorial staff, travel, PC board meetings, typesetting, reference library, share of rent, telephone, supplies.

To make PC self-supporting was the principal reason for moving PC to Los Angeles and not to San Francisco with Headquarters from Salt Lake City in 1952.

The National JACL Council in 1980 preferred the PC publish 50 weeks a year and raised the dues to cover JACL member subscriptions accordingly—after rejecting a 26-week format as had been recommended by the previous National Board.

This is also to remind everyone that the policies set forth by National Council are as binding as those cast in the JACL Constitution, the difference being that it takes more votes to change provisions in the Constitution. Some think if it's not in the Constitution, there is no JACL policy in force when, to the contrary, there is—imbedded in the JACL Convention minutes. Which recalls Bill Marutani's suggestion when he was JACL legal counsel: JACL policies should be codified.

For instance, the 1962 Convention Minutes on page 87 establishes a PC Reserve Fund, stipulating how it should be kept. The National Board in February, 1965, amended the reserve fund limit upwards from \$5,000 to \$10,000, only the second \$5,000 would be set aside at Nat'l Headquarters for use by PC. For the record, the PC Reserve Fund currently has about \$700, having recently withdrawn \$3,200 to complete payment for the VDT and modem—computer hardware and half of our \$2,000 software program. Another \$4,000 from the PC Book Account (for book sales and a \$6,000 deposit from JARP) was used for one-time conversion cost of PC labels data to the computer disk plus the third step payment for software.

Commissioner William Marutani asked Chuman if this Writ would be initiated by the courts, to which Chuman answered:

"... the United States Supreme Court, with the evidence that the Commission has, can take it upon themselves, on the Writ of [Error] Coram Nobis, to say that 'we think that we made a decision which was erroneous under the limited information we had at that time and now we ourselves want to set the record straight.'"

Marutani, however, wondered if the independence of the judiciary branch would present a problem. Chuman said that there may have to be some type of "protagonist-antagonist" situation to initiate the proceedings. Marutani suggested that, perhaps, the CWRIC could be one of the parties involved in initiating the proceedings.

The Limits of Military Authority

The Supreme Court's failure to uphold the Constitution, however, is only part of a larger picture—and in fact, the Court may have failed to check the mistakes being made by the other branches of the government. In San Francisco, attorney Lorraine K. Bannai, speaking on behalf of the Bay Area Attorneys for Redress, said Aug. 11 that the scope of military power on domestic matters during the war needs examining by the Commission—because the three branches of government failed to keep a tighter rein on the Army.

"During the exclusion and detention of Japanese Americans, the Executive, Legislative and Judicial branches of government wrongfully allowed the military to exercise control over civilians," noted Bannai.

The BAAR representative noted that "the power of the military to exercise control over civilians is limited to situations of martial law." She added that "under the Constitution, civil authorities alone can regulate civilians."

Citing Ex Parte Milligan, Bannai added that martial law can only be declared "out of an actual invasion on a theater or active military operation, where courts and civil administration are closed, where a war situation prevails and there is no power left except the military." Such was not actually the case on the West Coast. "Martial law cannot arise from a threatened invasion," noted Bannai.

She also said that in the Hirabayashi case, the Supreme Court dismissed the military control issue, saying that civil authorities were involved. But the military played a dominant role in the Evacuation, issuing and administering the orders which carried out the curfew, expulsion and detention.

The second issue that BAAR addressed itself to was whether Congress delegated its power over civilians to the military. "Congress may delegate only its administrative and not legislative powers and, if it delegates power, Congress or the Executive must establish clear policies and standards for the guidance and limitation of the agency carrying out the mandate," said Bannai.

She pointed out that E.O. 9066 and PL 503 gave military authority power to exclude any persons designated by the military, from districts established by the military, subject to restrictions those military authorities might impose on their sole discretion, which is unconstitutional.

Supreme Court Failed to Protect JAs

The third aspect BAAR noted was that the Supreme Court failed to review military actions. Bannai said: "The Supreme Court itself has held that the allowable limits of military dis-

cretion and whether or not those limits have been overstepped are judicial questions, always subject to review by the courts. Yet, the Supreme Court in wartime cases abdicated its responsibility by stating 'it is not for any court to sit in review of (the action by the warring branches) or substitute its judgment for theirs.' Thus, Bannai presented evidence that the Court failed to protect the constitutional rights of Nikkei from "excessive and unnecessary military actions."

Court Failed in Other Ways

Bannai added that E.O. 9066 and PL 503 should have been held as unconstitutional Bills of Attainder (under Article 1, Section 9 of the Constitution) which are, by definition, "a legislative act which inflicts punishment without trial."

BAAR, in their 57-page brief, also noted that the exclusion and detention of Nikkei during WW2 violated the First, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Eighth amendments of the Constitution, and many other fundamental rights, among them the right to privacy, to vote and to travel freely. Throughout the regional hearings, many other attorneys pointed out these similar contentions as well.

Chicago Academicians Offer Views

During the Chicago session on Sept. 23, Shirley Castelnuovo, Professor of Political Science at Northeastern Illinois University, somewhat echoed BAAR's testimony by presenting a written statement which said that there was "an unconstitutional delegation of power to the military by Congress" through PL 503. She added that there was also a "violation of due process rights" involving the 120,000 Japanese Americans and "the use of racial classification to determine loyalty, that is to say, all persons of Japanese ancestry were deemed disloyal."

Victor Rosenblum, Professor of Law at Northwestern University, suggested that the Korematsu case had been reversed in principle, as Goldberg had stated, but the actuality of it had not taken place. So he suggested that since the Supreme Court relied so heavily on congressional action in justifying the Evacuation, the initial step toward redress should involve congressional repudiation of the Evacuation.

The 'Impossible' Task

Throughout the hearings, many other legal and civil libertarian organizations offered their testimony as well, such as:

The Japanese American Bar Association (Los Angeles); the ACLU (several regions); the Asian American Bar Association of the Greater Bay Area and the Nihonmachi Legal Outreach (San Francisco); the Asian Law Association (Seattle); and many other individual attorneys.

Many of these individuals and groups expressed the common contention that constitutional rights were clearly violated during the Evacuation. But remedying the injustice of the internment will not be as easy as one may think; for the constitutional ramifications of the Evacuation are, perhaps, a bit more complicated than they appear, as evidenced by some of the testimony.

At most of the regional hearings, Commissioner Marutani often told witnesses: "Nothing is impossible for those who don't have to do it."

He may prove himself to be a master of understatement.

The PC will continue to explore other facets of the hearings, such as the WRA and the camp conditions; the "military necessity" issue; the impact of the internment on the Nikkei; and remedies.

● Guest Editorial:

Escape from the past

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The problem is not that the Asian-Pacific-American community is in dire straits. On the contrary, it has many thoroughly positive elements going—the admirable work ethic, the emphatic value placed on first-class education and the still comparatively strong family and community structure.

After all, their most crucial need, in our view, is to forge a higher political profile. It's terribly easy to be overlooked when you don't speak out. And it's easy to send out a garbled message when you do speak out, if you're a Tower of Babel chorale. Asians may have to forgo some degree of individual ethnicities and sing a more similar tune if they are to form a stronger political force. We emphasize again that the Chinese and Japanese communities, in particular, will need to demonstrate more accommodation toward the newer Asian groups.

Certain behavioral changes will be required. While any modification in style tends to be regarded as serious cultural compromise in some community circles, unless L.A.'s Asian-Pacific communities become more assertive and articulate, very little will change—as some community groups already are beginning to suspect. The Japanese American Citizens League and the Asian Pacific Women's Network are two groups that have taken the terribly important step of offering assertiveness training and communication seminars to their brethren.

The training is truly needed, for surely there are things to be done. There must be improvements in the areas of affirmative action, bilingual education (but only very limited programs—see last week's guest editorial), job training and media coverage (more balance and sophistication here). And because these are areas of concern common to all minority groups, blacks, Hispanics and other people of color (not to mention women and gays on some issues) must be worked with, not ignored.

More public education is needed, too. While researching this series, we were astonished by the unforgivable paucity of published information on Asian Pacifics. Asians must compete harder for more research grant money with which to build up the scanty pool of public information and research on themselves. The importance of such a pool can't be overstressed: In this bureaucratic and numbers-oriented society, no statistics can mean no credibility.

But Asians must not limit themselves to an outside adversarial role. Working from within the existing systems is also necessary. This means taking a more active role in mainstream activities: e.g., setting up ethnic components in one's professional or occupational organizations; training for positions of public influence in government, politics and the media. Or, using the wealth of Asian business resources to attract, if you will, mainstream political influence.

And yet, having said all this, Asian Pacifics would be wise, in this age of diminishing government resources, to do without government aid rather than lean on it—with complete self-sufficiency the ultimate goal. Government programs alone will not improve the quality of life for our Asian-Pacific community. Not only is it unreliable (here today, cut back tomorrow) but it is a tricky, two-edged sword. While it gets you temporary money and services, it also creates an unhealthy dependence that puts you in an inferior power position. We know many community activists differ with this argument. They insist that tax-paying Asians should be given their piece of the pie. Maybe, but, simply put, too much pie is not good for you.

Active private initiative, rather than passive government reliance, could do a better job at boosting the community. Less government and more private initiative is the smart way to go—and, inevitably, given this era of growing government austerity, the only way to go. (Next week) our final chapter discusses the few important contributions the government can make.

Tenth in a series of 11 editorials on the troubled Asian community in Los Angeles. The entire set is now available in reprint form by writing to The Los Angeles Herald Examiner, Editorial Page, P.O. Box 2416, Terminal Annex, Los Angeles, CA 90051.

NBC-TV's Tom Brokaw to keynote AAJA fundraiser

LOS ANGELES—The Asian American Journalist Association will hold its first scholarship fundraising dinner Nov. 6, 7:30 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Ballroom. Guest speaker will be Tom Brokaw, host of the NBC "Today Show." His topic for the evening will be "The Challenge of the '80s."

Brokaw will soon be the New York anchor for the NBC Nightly News, replacing John Chancellor next year. Before hosting the "Today Show," Brokaw was the news anchorman for the local NBC affiliate, KNBC-TV and later became the network's White House correspondent, covering the Watergate investigation and President Richard M. Nixon's resignation.

The AAJA is a non-profit organization with the purpose of providing a means of association and

support among Asian American professional journalists and students seeking careers in the field. AAJA also seeks to provide the Asian American community with an awareness of news media and how to gain fair access.

Members include Tertia Toyota, Frank Kwan, KNBC-TV; Bill Sing, Nancy Yoshihara, David Kishiyama, Cherry Gee, Los Angeles Times; Elaine Woo, Anne Nakao, Teresa Watanabe, Los Angeles Herald Examiner; Dwight Chuman, Chris Komai, Henry Mori, Rafu Shimpo; Ray Yamaguchi, Kashi Mainichi; Sophia Kim, Koreatown; Harry Honda and Peter Imamura, Pacific Citizen.

Tickets for the dinner are \$50 per person; Golden Circle Tables \$100 per person. For info call David Kishiyama (213) 972-7737 or Cherry Gee 972-7122.



'STATION J'—Actors (l to r) Richard Narita, Shizuko Hoshi and Leigh Kim portray the Shigeta family, who must endure the hardships of the Evacuation in the East West Players' production of "Station J" now playing through Nov. 8.

● Theater Review:

East West's 'Station J'

With the recent commission hearings on the wartime internment and relocation drawing to a close, East West Players' "Station J", a play which delves into that very subject, could certainly be considered a "timely" and "germane" work, but its relevancy exists on a broader level, since it deals with the human aspect of the Evacuation, namely, its victims. "J" follows the plight of the

Shigeta family as they struggle for survival before, during and after the WW2 internment. Through a combination of strong performances by the cast and an audio visual background, all the elements of the tragedy are presented: Exclusion orders. Property scavengers. Racist sentiment. Loyalty questions. Kibei. Yogotas. Camp rumours. Token governmental appeasement.

In the span of three acts (running a total of about three hours with two ten-minute intermissions), "J" boldly attempts to provide an encapsulated history of the Evacuation through the story of one family. In a sense, it also tries to deal with the then terrible dilemma of being an American with the face of the "enemy".

To an extent, it succeeds emotionally, for there are some powerful and poignant scenes. However, Nikkei audiences may find the "messages" being delivered as all but subtle (did the Japanese Americans during the war call them "concentration camps" so blatantly, and so often?).

But that flaw may be forgivable, since author Richard France (the only non-Asian playwright in the EWP season) told the PC that the "messages" of his play are really aimed at, or would like to be aimed at, "Reagan supporters" and "Jerry Falwell" followers. France noted that he would like more of these types of people to be in the audience.

He added that his play is about what happens when a supposedly pluralistic society takes out after any one group of "outsiders." The same "variables" of the Evacuation were present in the McCarthyism of the 1950s; the repression of black militants in the 1960s; and more recently, the anti-Iranian and anti-Vietnamese activities here in the U.S.

So one of the messages that "J" delivers implies that leaders who claim to be "right" in order to build their following (such as the California gubernatorial candidate in the play who spouts anti-Japanese sentiment)—inflict painful dam-

ages on those whom their campaigns are aimed at—the "outsiders."

Of the recent commission hearings, France noted, "The broader implications of the redress hearings are chillingly real."

The same can be said for his play. "J's" story of the Shigeta family is an allegory for what happened to many West Coast Nikkei who suffered as a result of the camps: the toll was taken upon their emotions, dignity, sanity, identity and physical well-being.

"J" also suggests—and this may cause some controversy—that today's Nikkei have "sold out" and "commercialized" their own culture, largely because of the long-time suppression of the internment experience.

The play jumps to 1968, where Emiko Shigeta (Kim Miyori) and her brother Taro (Leigh Kim), both aged and having survived the internment ordeal, now find themselves amidst a plastic "sister city" ceremony in San Francisco.

"Everyone wants something Japanese in their homes," says Emiko. To which Taro adds, "The same things we once had to throw away."

"Station J," which runs through Nov. 8, is produced by Jim Ishida, written by Richard France, directed by Mako and Alberto Issac with light and scenic design by Rae Creevey, costumes by Rodney Kageyama and Noh choreography by Shizuko Hoshi. The cast includes Mako, Shizuko Hoshi, Leigh Kim, Kim Miyori, Richard Narita, Thomas Bellin, Jack Clemons, and Charles Davis. For ticket info call EWP at (213) 660-0366. —P.I.

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MUSUBI: by Ron Wakabayashi

Unsung Role

San Francisco

October 15th is my mother's birthday. Happy Birthday, Mom! To you and all of the Nisei moms, your "kozo" have a great deal of debt.

The contribution of Nisei women to the development of the Japanese American community, and especially to the Sansei, have been understated or unsaid. I guess that has been your role in the community.

It must have been tough to be young girls during wartime, even tougher to be young brides with small children. I remember your telling me how scared you were to having military personnel stop you on the streets of Oakland, asking your destination. I remember the look on your face, when you spoke about Pop taking a suitcase to work with him every morning, just in case the FBI would pick him up. That meant that you were never sure, if you would see him again.

Your friends, whose husbands left camp to join the 442 or to try and find jobs, had to suddenly take on the responsibility for the welfare of the family. The single women, who worked on the camouflage nets in the war effort, also were left to care for younger brothers and sisters in addition to their Issei parents. The stories that you have told me about the lines to the unpartitioned latrines, about honeymoons in the concentration camp barracks, are funny only now.

Whether they are called Fujinkai or Auxiliaries, the women's groups that you worked with always got the dirty work, never the spotlight. Not many community things would have taken place without your labor. I wonder how many pieces of *sushi* have been made by your hands, how many gallons of *ocha*, and, yes, how many *musubi*? Without you, what would *Oshogatsu* be like.

I hate it when you show the picture of me in the suit that you made for me. Your sewing school was a bit perverse to stage a wedding scene with little kids. Besides, the bridesmaid was cuter in the picture. You should have put me with her. I guess your *bachi* was to have to take all that sewing in at home from the jobber, and to make all those alterations at the cleaners.

We, Sansei, both male and female, have a better life because of the sacrifices that you made for us. *Okachan, omedeto!* #



CLIFF'S CORNER: by Dr. Clifford Uyeda

Redress

"Have you read Judge Takasugi's comment on the Commission hearings?"

I had. Just in recent years I was to learn that we are both from Tacoma, Washington. Differences in our age and my leaving the West Coast back in 1936 were the reasons we had not known each other in Tacoma.

I am one of Judge Takasugi's admirers. His bold and frank assertions are valuable within the Japanese American community. They make us aware of the concepts we ought not ignore.

All the Nikkei Congressmen with the exception of the Junior Senator from California are indignant over the great wrong done to Japanese Americans by our own Government. There may be little need for Japanese Americans to hear this wrong repeated. The American public in general, however, is still today almost totally ignorant of what happened to us.

If we are to progress in our redress campaign the American public must become better informed. What the hearings have done is to earn media coverage on the subject as no other method could have accomplished.

We are still a long ways from realizing redress. There are no shortcuts. But we are a step closer because of educating the public through the hearings. Some broad public support will be most valuable in receiving eventual congressional support—without which our redress goal will remain just a dream.

CWRIC Continued from Page 2

Beth also serves on the board of directors of the Columbia Journal of Environmental Law, as a member of the Atomic Energy and the Environmental Law Committees of the New York City Bar Assn., and as a member of the Executive Committee, section on environmental law, of the New York State

Bar Association.

MacBeth received his B.A. from Yale College summa cum laude in 1964, attended Oxford University as a Henry Fellow in 1965, was a Carnegie Teaching Fellow at Yale University in 1966, and received his LLB from Yale Law School in 1969.

Letterbox

● Is this to come?

Editor:

The tumult and the shouting surrounding the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians has subsided and runaway emotions stored away for another generation. But the smell of battle seems to have transformed some of our compadres into werewolves bent on continuing the blood therapy.

Methinks the opposing camps (sic!) on redress are playing right into the clammy palms of Congress. "Divide and Conquer" was the old battle cry if I remember my Roman history correctly. While the natives burn, Capitol Hill will fiddle.

Austerity is the attitude on The Hill. This is compounded by the fact there are few legislators who even remember the Evacuation. Thus we have a pretty clear picture of what congressional action will (not) be taken regardless of the CWRIC's expected findings ("The edict was a horrendous mistake") and recommendations ("The nation owes..."). ("Consider the plight of the more glamorous and recent Iranian hostage situation. A "grateful and understanding" nation is offering them the munificent sum of \$12.50 per day!)

But worse yet some have chosen to rekindle the JACL versus Non-JACL internecine war. This desire to finger an evacuation culprit, a scapegoat, seems today as heightened as it was 39 years ago when roving gangs of Kibei thugs became self-styled camp vigilantes attacking "inus" and "collaborators".

A question for the angst-filled militants of today: *Where could the much-needed evacuation leadership come from?*

In 1941-42 the majority of Nisei were teenagers and mighty naive ones at that if compared to the youth of today. Issei parents, mostly in their 40s, couldn't speak English let alone entertain thoughts of challenging authority or questioning obedience.

It's simply a numerical truism, folks, we just didn't have the census to fight. Nor the political acumen, economic clout or public sentiment. Hell, man (woman), no one even knew what human rights were. And remember, too, the Nisei world of the '40s didn't have a lawyer under every fortune cookie.

Challengers of today have the monstrous benefit of hindsight. Shoot, guy (gal), we of WWII wouldn't dare question anyone in authority—be it parent/teacher/police/crossing guard/theater usher. It had nothing to do with being spineless or yellow (benign racism!). That's simply the way it was and everyone accepted it without challenge B.V.N. (Before Viet Nam).

So this current vendetta—this urge to pin the tail of guilt on the JACL is a farce and an exercise in abject futility/stupidity.

Geez. Yipes. Zounds and shucks. I've never been known as a guidon carrier for the JACL, heaven forbid! But if some quarters persist in seeing everything in a JACL vs. F.O.E. (Friends of Electra) light, the Boogie Man (and Lillian Bakers of the world) will getcha if you don't watch out!

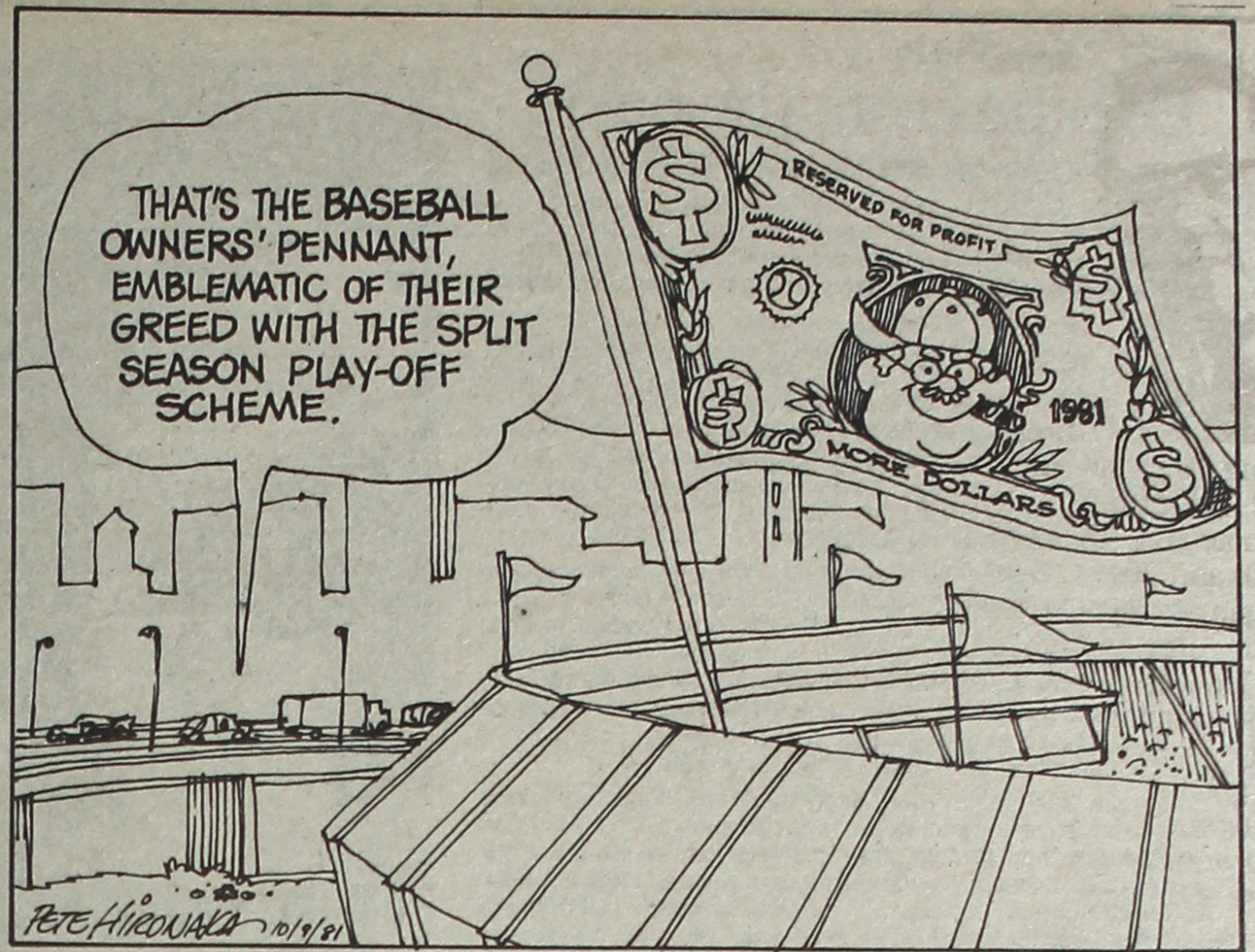
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Bookshelf

● Yoshiko Uchida's Latest

Now comes Yoshiko Uchida's 19th book, *A JAR OF DREAMS* (Atheneum, New York, \$9.95, 131pp), a story of a young girl Rinko who grows up in a closely-knit Japanese American family in California during a time of great prejudice (the 1930s).

A master at writing books for children, her earlier stories had delved into Japanese folklore and experiences in Japan. Of late, her books have focused on Nikkei life—from the Wakamatsu tea and silk colony era ("Samurai of Gold Hill") to WW2 ("Journey to Topaz" and "Journey Home"). Home libraries with a complete collection must be proud of the Uchida series. It makes us wish we had one.—H.H.



● Don't laugh

Editor:

Thank God it is the Med Fruit Fly and not the Japanese Fruit Fly. Because as sure as the sun rises the mentally deaf, dumb and blind would surely blame me for that.

Am weary of being dumped on!
 M. YAMANAKA ISEKE
 Palo Alto, Ca.

● The Mis-informed

Editor:

While James Oda's comments have often shown a great deal of imagination, translated into positive statements, I disagree with two lines of thoughts he presented in his letter (PC Sept. 18). His mention that there may be a grain of truth in asking Japan to share the costs is completely unacceptable, since this implies that those who

say "Send the bill to Japan" is right. The decision to issue Executive Order 9066 was purely and wholly an American decision. If the bill is to be shared by anyone other than the Government, it should be by the bigots and the profiteers who supported the Evacuation, and who even today, carry within themselves the ingrained sense of prejudice.

Oda further states that the letters to the editors are overwhelmingly against Redress. What's being done to counteract this? English is our basic language and we are reasonably well educated. The Nikkei in the respective communities should send in pro-Redress letters.

The testimonies and the written testimonies to the CWRIC are presentations to the Commission, but

our job does not end here. We also need to educate the public. Chauvinistic or well-meaning, the anti-Redress letters to the editors should be challenged in every city. We can't change the minds of the bigots, but we can educate the misinformed. An active, vocal program by every JACL chapter and interested supporters of Redress is another important phase of the Redress campaign.

BARRY SAIKI
 Tokyo, Japan

■ *Americanism is question of principle, of purpose, of Idealism, of Character; it is not a matter of birthplace or creed or line of descent.—Theodore Roosevelt, 1909.*

FROM HAPPY VALLEY: by Sachi Seko

A Sequel: a Joy on Being 84

Salt Lake City:

This is a sequel to the last column. My friend, who is 84, was scheduled to enter the hospital. Before the appointed date, she was rushed by ambulance to the emergency department. We had visited her three hours earlier. She had looked fine. On learning of her premature admittance, I called her room and said, "I guess our visit did it. I was too much for you." She answered, "That's what did it. Your visit." And then, "Stop cracking jokes. It hurts when you make me laugh." The next day, surgery was performed.

She sent word asking us not to come to the hospital. A friend, unable to contain his anxiety, made the trip. Later, he told me, she said, "What are you doing here? I look terrible and I feel terrible. I don't want to see anyone. Go home." He seemed offended. I reassured him, "She was being her usual gracious self." Obviously, he did not realize her tremendous sense of dignity. Often, out of duty or true compassion, we press ourselves upon the ill. They are helpless victims of our energy and our desires. Sometimes, good deeds contain no mercy.

This afternoon, my friend finally called. She said, "I did it. I'm home." Her release from the convalescent home to which she had been transferred was conditional. She had to prove within the month that she was capable of caring for herself. A nurse would come twice weekly to the house. I told her I had received progress reports on her condition. I also explained why I stopped calling her. "You weren't making any sense. I knew you were hallucinating. But you had the gall to tell me I was talking funny. That you couldn't understand a word. I thought I talked okay."

I asked when we could see her. "Come as soon as you can. I want the whole world to know and see I made it. I'm home." I told her we would come tonight. She was waiting for us. Hearing our footsteps, she called through the window, "Come in. The door's unlocked." At first glance, it was difficult to believe she almost died a month ago. The weight loss was concealed by clothing carefully chosen for that purpose. Nothing could disguise the new sharpness in her high cheekbones.

She asked if I remembered the date of her sudden hospitalization. "The time in the hos-

pital is a fog to me." I recalled we had stopped to buy a vacuum cleaner on the way to her house. My checkbook showed the date. Almost a month had passed. Was she also vague about the convalescent home? "Oh no, I remember all that. It was terrible. Some of the patients were very nice. But at least half of them belonged in an insane asylum. I felt sorry for them." And abruptly, "I don't want to talk about the hospital and the convalescent home, anymore. I've talked so much about it, I could vomit."

I suggested we talk about Nicholas. She rewarded me with the anticipated reaction. "That's even worse." Stroking her neck, with a hand that is noticeably more delicate, she added, "He tried to bite me. He showed his huge fangs." I disagreed and said he was only smiling. Nicholas smiles and laughs a lot. We continued to disagree about dogs. Her eyes sparkled, enjoying the debate.

Others came to welcome her home. It was a spontaneous party. Although we were strangers, we felt we knew each other. All of us have been so much a part of our friend's life and conversations. In the group was a recent high school graduate, who sat at our friend's feet. Someone suggested she move to a comfortable chair. The young girl declined, saying, "No thank you. I want to stay here, closer to her." In the soft lamplight, they presented a perfect portrait of youth and age.

My friend sat in the largest chair, center of the room. She was regal, a queen. There was no lull in the conversation, only interruptions of laughter. My friend, the consummate hostess, presided and guided the night. The festive night of homecoming. We did not dwell on her illness. During a small distraction, I observed the quickness with which she slipped essential medication between her lips. She pretended I had not seen.

Tonight, we celebrated life, not a reprieve from death. We respected her wishes. As we made our departures, there was no reference to complete recovery or longer life. Instead it was, "We're so glad to have you home." That said it all. On the 6:00 o'clock news, the weather forecaster reported the temperature was dropping rapidly. Strange, it felt unseasonably warm.

FROM THE FRYING PAN: by Bill Hosokawa

Old Alaskan Cannery Days Recalled

Denver, Colo.

Old man Nagamatsu was an Alaska salmon cannery labor contractor in Seattle. That means he supplied the manpower to run canneries for the summer canning season. As I recall, he had three canneries operated by the Nakat Packing Co., a subsidiary of A & P. They were at places called Hidden Inlet, Waterfall and Union Bay, all of them in remote areas in Southeastern Alaska. That was back in the '20s and '30s.

Nagamatsu would send up crews, mostly Issei bachelors, in April or May. They were called "season boys". Their job was to open up the canneries and get them ready for the canning season. In June the "guarantee boys" would be shipped out. These were mostly Nisei teenagers. They got the name because they were guaranteed two months work.

The work ranged from pitch-fish (you stood hip-deep in salmon and pitched them out of a fishing boat's hold) to wash-fish (you cleaned out the salmon's abdominal cavity after the butcher machine split them open) to filler-machine (you fed the salmon into a machine that filled the cans) to wash-can (you hand-trucked trays of cans into the cooking retorts, took them out again and washed them down with live steam) to warehouse (you labeled the cans and packed them in boxes and stacked them in the warehouse).

For this, we received free passage to the cannery and back to Seattle in steerage class, a bunk in a bunkhouse, meals (mostly rice and salmon), and, the first year I went up, \$75 a month for 60-hour weeks. They paid overtime after 60 hours at the rate of 25 cents an hour. We were glad to get the work. The more fortunate fellows used their earnings to help finance college educations. Most of the others gave the money to their folks to help feed the

family.

What brings all this to mind is a clipping that Joe Tsujimoto sent me from the Seattle Times. Joe, no doubt, was an "Alaska boy", just like most of us who grew up in Seattle during those years. The clipping told of the remarkable change that is coming over the Waterfall cannery. I never got to Waterfall. I went to Hidden Inlet, but some of my friends worked at Waterfall and they must have been as amazed as I to learn what's happening.

The cannery has been purchased by Waterfall Group, Ltd., a real estate investment firm with roots in Hawaii. Its general partners are Robert N. Miura of Honolulu and Alex Pananides, formerly of Santa Barbara, Calif., now living in Ketchikan. Hawaii-born Russell Chun is vice president of operations.

They're converting Waterfall into a fishing vacation resort. They have accommodations for 52 guests in posh cottages. For about \$210 a day per person, guests will get lodging, meals, the use of 21-foot fishing boats and fishing guides. Each cottage will have its own bath, heating system, wet bar and fancy flush toilets. There will also be a recreation hall that includes a cocktail lounge, game tables, and a video-tape machine for films.

Except for the cost—they paid us, we didn't pay them—things don't seem to have changed very much since the cannery days. We got lodging (six to a room) and all meals (the rice came in large dishwashing pans which were suspended over the table by cords hanging from the ceiling, and everyone helped himself). The toilets were built out over the water and the tide flushed them. The messhall was the recreation room and if I remember correctly, there was a wind-up portable phonograph and a half dozen scratchy records. If we got a Sunday off we could borrow a rowboat and go fishing for searun trout or halibut, but mostly we were so tired we spent the day napping, doing

the laundry and writing home.

The salmon cannery experience produced a lot of memories if not wealth. But I'm not sure I want to relive them, not for \$210 a day. Aside from that, there's a nice touch of irony that a fellow named Miura and another fellow named Chun are making a resort out of a cannery where guys with similar names labored so long ago. #

EAST WIND: by Bill Marutani



Over the Bering Sea

Pribilof Islands, Alaska

AS WE PEN these words, we are aboard a U.S.A.F. Hercules-130 cargo plane headed back for Anchorage from the Pribilof Islands where we had been over a span covering three days. The principal two islands are St. George and St. Paul, the latter being inhabited by some 550 souls most of whom are Aleuts. Indeed, St. Paul has the largest concentration of Aleuts anywhere. While Dutch Harbor-Unalaska is ringed by majestic mountains sweeping down to the sea, the Pribilofs are generally high plateaus with some undulation of the terrain. The time zone differential is five hours, based upon my East Coast time and such has been causing marked disorientation in my sleeping, eating and arising schedule. I shudder to think of the two-step (through Chicago) adjustment I'll have to endure, "losing" five hours in reaching home.

AS WE ALL know, the Pribilof Islands are the gathering place of the greatest number of seals from which a harvest of some 23,000 was completed in the past few weeks. We hasten to add that this is not the harvesting of those white-furred baby Harper seals we read about. Rather, in the Pribilofs (only on St. Paul, harvesting on St. George having been temporarily halted since 1973) the harvesting is confined to young males three to four years old. (If you are a seal around here, it's better to be a female, a bull, or a pup... not a *wakaishi*.) The seals reportedly number 1.4 million and are the economic mainstay in these parts, also providing subsistence food for the denizens. Indeed, at the last dinner in these islands we "bravely" opted for seal meat stew, passing up some luscious-looking pork chops. We washed it down with Russian tea balanced with deep-fried Russian bread, served piping hot, that "stuck to your ribs" as they say. Very good, all of it.

OF COURSE we visited the rookeries where thousands of seals lolled among the rocks while others gamboled in the waters. A cacophony of blaring bulls, bleating pups and cows calling their pups. There is not a single dog on the Pribilofs, unlike Dutch Harbor-Unalaska where dogs of every breed, size, shape and color freely roam or ride in the back of pick-up trucks. The reason for absence of canines on the Pribilofs, of course, is to keep the seals safe in their rookeries.

THE PEOPLE manifest simple dignity as does the land and the surrounding seas. True, we did observe some evidence of intoxication among the populace which is experiencing a reported unemployment rate exceeding 70%. But then I see more intoxication in our cities. There are vigorous, articulate, young leaders who are working to break the continuing chain of dependency and poverty and replace it with the dignity that is theirs. There is a movement to resuscitate and preserve the once-dying Aleut language, arts, dances and customs, not only among the young but also the middle-aged. I saw some Aleut art, that were of the highest order, including some icons painted by earlier Aleuts that would rival, if not match or exceed, a Reubens. I was profoundly impressed.

IT CAN BE, and was, a humbling experience. But it always is when one realizes that mankind, after all, is one. #

SPEAKING OUT:

Hayakawa's Backlash Problem

By BOB SHIMABUKURO
(Portland JAACL Newsletter)

Because of all the attention paid these days to the CWRIC hearings, I thought I would spare everyone from another article on these hearings. However, it is extremely difficult for me to ignore Senator Hayakawa's performance in Los Angeles.

For those who are not familiar the Senator from California said that although he was proud to be a Japanese American, "my flesh crawls with shame and embarrassment" at claims for reparations, and that redress organizations invite a backlash against Japanese Americans.

First of all, I cannot think of any issue that I have been in agreement with him over the years. His positions while president at San Francisco State College against his faculty and students protesting for more student input, his support for white supremacist governments in Africa, his anti-bilingual education stance, together with his stand on the redress question makes me suspicious, not only of his motives and ideology, but also of the people that elected him. He demonstrates a complete lack of understanding of the concept of institutional racism.

35 Years Ago

in The Pacific Citizen

OCT. 5, 1946

Sept. 16—Winnipeg Nisei girl, 18, forced to go with parents being repatriated to Japan; three older sisters and brother allowed to stay. (Sailing date of ship delayed because of maritime strike.)

Sept. 26—"First papers" to show intent of naturalization given San Francisco Issei (Akimi Sugawara) by U.S. District Court; had filed July 16 through JAACL.

Sept. 27—San Jose State half-back Babe Nomura stars in opener, Willamette College drubbed 44-6.

Sept. 29—Hawaiian All-Stars (Leilehua High alumni gridgers) open mainland tour, beating Portland Univ. 54-13; led by all-Nisei backfield of Wally Yonamine, Marco Takata, Jim Asato and Richard Asato.

Sept. 29—Mike Masaoka, A.L. Wirin debate Native Sons of Golden West officials on Los Angeles radio KMPC against Prop. 15—on ratification of alien land law; JAACL warns passage would mean "second evacuation—land evacuation" for Japanese Americans... JAACL-ADC hikes campaign for defeat of Prop. 15.

Oct. 1—Mine Okubo's "Citizen 13660" published by Columbia University Press... Andrew Lind's "Hawaii's Japanese: an Experiment in Democracy" to be published Nov. 1 by Princeton University Press... Infantry

Journal's book on 442nd may be printed by early November.

Oct. 2—Calif. supreme court hears Torao Takahashi case; Terminal Island Issei with two sons in U.S. Army was denied commercial fishing license by state fish & game commission. A 1945 amendment to code prohibits "aliens ineligible to citizenship" from commercial and sports fishing as a conservation measure; Takahashi charges racial discrimination since more numerous groups not affected.

Oct. 4—Class action suit (Yoshikazu Tsuchiyama of San Pedro and 200 other prewar Issei commercial fishermen in California) filed as second test of alien fishing ban.

OCT. 12, 1946

Sept. 29—Club 100, Honolulu, holds memorial rites for 300 Nisei war dead. (Date coincides with 100th Infantry's first day of combat in Italy.)

Oct. 3—U.S. Army transport Marine Falcon departs Seattle for Japan via Vancouver, B.C. with 500 Canadian repatriates, including many minor children forced to accompany parents; also aboard: Mrs. Morgan Vining, chosen by U.S. State Dept. to teach English to Crown Prince Akihito.

Oct. 4—New personal plane designed by James Nagamatsu, Aero-Flight Aircraft Corp. of Buffalo, N.Y., given pre-flight tests; looks like P-51 Mustang.

Continued on Next Page

Most of us (non-whites) have experienced race hostility, from a passing verbal shot from a car to physical confrontation in red-necked bars and taverns. Any of us looking for a job, or trying to obtain a loan, or trying to learn about our peoples' history in school knows, at least at a gut level, what institutional racism is about, although we may not be able to verbalize it.

But these concepts even on a gut level; if he did the master linguist ought to be able to put forth an eloquent statement on the subject. Instead he chooses to use his talents to be a spokesman for "the Man", trying to out-Reagan Reagan and sounding more like Jesse Helms every day.

Those asking for justice, he is saying, are inviting a backlash; therefore, we should back off and once again wait like good little Americans, or better yet, forget about it and let bygones be bygones. This attitude is hardly new. It has been preached to all minority groups demanding equitable treatment, so let's take a look at it with regard to Hayakawa and the redress issue.

The backlash problem is definitely real. Americans tend to get bent out of shape when non-whites are in leadership or status positions, or when non-whites "win" something or are able to have something whites cannot have, as for instance, non-Indian fishermen feel "discriminated" against because they don't have the same "rights" as Indian fishermen. Yet the leaders of this country do nothing to allay these fears or set the record straight. Instead, they exploit these fears.

Rather than instructing Americans on what happened during WWII, Hayakawa tells his constituents to watch out, these guys are out to get something at your expense, and remember, I'm not one of them. Instead of talking about illegal incarceration and curtailment of civil-rights, he talks about the wonderful three year vacations that the hard-working Japanese Americans had. Instead of noting the harmful psychological effects that the incarceration had upon the Nikkei community, he talks about the wonders of instant one generation "assimilation." With these kinds of misinformation and opinions, Hayakawa does not instruct his constituency about facts of history, he instead begs for a backlash.

Now Hayakawa is not the only one who shares those opinions about concentration camps and about redress, but what makes his testimony important is that he is a Nikkei Senator and as such he is looked upon by the American media as a *Japanese American Leader* rather than a Senator who happens to be Japanese American. And that is worrisome to me. Hayakawa ought to feel shame and embarrassment, not for people asking for a little justice, but for his performance as a high ranking politician.

As a footnote, the U.S. government recently settled a class action suit brought by the ACLU (D.C.) concerning the mass arrests of 15,000 people during the May 3,4,5 1971 anti-Vietnam War demonstrations in the nation's capital. About 1250 persons were awarded \$3.15 million in damages. According to the D.C. office of the ACLU, the average period of incarceration was about 48 hours. So the next time someone asks you how you can put a fair price on illegal incarceration, tell them the government just put about \$2,500 each for 48 hours for a predominately white crowd. Compute that rate for 3 years and you get \$1,350,000 each. Makes the \$25,000 figure look like small change. #

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Saburo Muraoka

San Diego

Mayor Pete Wilson of San Diego proclaimed Sept. 26, 1981 as Saburo Muraoka Day. Over 300 friends, relatives, and dignitaries came to the Holiday Inn here to attend a dinner honoring this outstanding civic leader. His overall generosity was attested to by the many tributes paid this man before the evening was over.

The Japanese Coordinating Council of San Diego sponsored the affair and San Diego JACL chapter president Mas Hironaka chaired the event. Mas was in rare form that evening and some of his comments brought out chuckles and laughter from the crowd.

Mr. Muraoka's involvement to make Southern California a better place to live has long been recognized and he has received many awards from both sides of the Pacific Ocean.

In 1955, he returned to Japan and met with officials of the Yokohama city government and returned with a gift of a Japa-

nese stone lantern from the people of Yokohama to the people of San Diego. This was probably a forerunner to the San Diego-Yokohama sister city program to which he is referred to as the godfather.

The dinner was also celebrating the 25th anniversary of the stone lantern which had been placed in the San Diego Zoo.

I went to the zoo the following day and tried to find the stone lantern but could not. I went to the information booth and the young lady behind the counter appeared dumbfounded when I asked her about the stone lantern. When I explained further about the sister city program, she did not appear any further enlightened. I gave up and went to seek the monkeys in their cages.

I called Hironaka the following day and told him that I could not find the lantern. He told me they had not publicized its presence because of vandalism in the zoo. In fact, the zoo has armed security to guard against such vandalism and crazy acts as some kids had jumped into the wolves den and got mauled.

Next time I am in San Diego I will have Mas take me to the zoo and show me where that stone lantern is.

Walnut Drive, Oxnard, Ca. 93030. Dues are \$50 per couple, \$30 per single, \$10 for college students, and \$2.50 for high school students.

For further information call Janet Kajihara (805) 483-3812. The public is welcomed.

APAAC seeks director and adm. assistant

SACRAMENTO—Asian Pacific American Advocates of California (APAAC) is seeking qualified persons to staff its Sacramento office, which is projected to begin operation in January 1982, according to Allan Seid, M.D., APAAC president.

The Executive Director will be the chief staff person for APAAC in charge of all day-to-day activities of the organization (duties include leadership, management of office, analysis of legislation and dissemination of information to Asian Pacific American Communities) and will have an annual salary of \$25,000 to \$30,000. Closing date: Oct. 30.

The Administrative Assistant will have on-site responsibilities for the operations of the Sacramento APAAC office, and will have an annual salary of \$16,500. Closing date: Nov. 15.

The Executive Director's position will include extensive statewide travel, and both positions' times are not limited to a normal work week. For information and application contact: APAAC Personnel Committee, c/o Vernon Yoshioka, chairperson, 6968 Glenflora Ave., San Diego, Ca. 92119. Phone: (h) (714) 461-2010 or (w) 291-7311 ext. 1195.

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Active (Previous total) 1,803
Total this report 28
Current total 1,831

AADAP director named to Calif. drug advisory post

SACRAMENTO—Patrick L. Ogawa, Executive Director of the Asian American Drug Abuse Program (AADAP), was appointed to the State Advisory Board on Drug Problems by Assembly Speaker Willie L. Brown, Jr. on Sept. 28.

In addition to his AADAP position, Ogawa, 29, is a representative to the Asian-Pacific Planning Council; a member of the Los Angeles Health, Planning and Development Agency; and is co-chairperson of the Statewide Task Force Steering Committee of the Asian/Pacific Islander Task Force on High Blood Pressure, Education and Control.

The State Advisory Board on Drug Problems was created in 1980 to advise the Director of the State Department of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs on major

policy issues. Brown's appointment of Ogawa, a Gardena JACLer, was formally lauded by JACL National Director Ron Wakabayashi, who had been Ogawa's predecessor at AADAP.

Okinawa music group to perform at UCLA

LOS ANGELES—The Minoru Miyagi Troupe, comprised of 13 dancers and 7 musicians accomplished in the traditional arts of Okinawa, will open the International Dance Series at UCLA Royce Hall Oct. 10, 8:30 p.m. It is the troupe's first U.S. tour in cooperation with Japan Foundation and Asia Society.

14th annual Sendai Festival at new place

RIVERSIDE, Ca.—Riverside JACL's 14th annual Sendai Festival will be held on Saturday, Oct. 17, 11 a.m.-7 p.m., at a new site: the Canyon Crest Towne Center, featuring a varied Japanese cultural display, demonstrations, food and Japanese souvenirs. Ondo dancers perform from 7 p.m.

Of special interest to children will be Japanese folktales related by Mrs. Mable Bristol at 2 and 4 p.m., origami all day by the Junji Kumamotos, and the brush painting by Mrs. Sumi LaRose at 3 p.m.

Renew JACL Membership

Chapter Pulse

Ventura JACL in membership push

OXNARD, Ca.—The Ventura County Japanese American Citizens League will have a membership and renewal of membership drive meeting on Friday, Oct. 9 at 8 p.m., at the Camarillo Boys and Girls Club, 1500 Temple St. Camarillo.

Guest speaker is Warren Furutani, who will speak on "The Sansei Experience".

35 Years Ago

Continued from Page 5

Oct. 4—No. Calif. ACLU charges U.S. still holding 631 (432 Tule Lake renunciants, 123 from Peru; 41 "enemy aliens", 35 voluntary relatives) persons of Japanese ancestry at Justice Dept. detention camp at Crystal City, Tex.; some in custody for 4½ years—and a over a year after V-J day.

Oct. 5—West L.A. residents, civil rights groups support E. K. Yamato's right to occupy home under construction at Nebraska and Armacost Sts.; restrictive covenant-minded neighbors turn up radio and hecklers appear in attempt to drown out pro-Nisei speakers.

Oct. 6—Santa Ana Register urges "No" vote on Prop. 15-alien land law measure; first major Calif. daily on record against.

Oct. 7—Training course devised to prepare prewar San Francisco Issei dry cleaners pass state licensing test instituted during WW2; many unable to return to former trade.

Oct. 8—Three So. Calif. Issei (Genmosuke Masuda, Shosuke Nitta and Choyei Kondo) denied right to file for "first papers" withdraw test case challenging I&NS refusal after Justice Dept. drops ban ... Rev. John Yamazaki of St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Los Angeles, issued first papers Oct. 1 by U.S. District Court.

Oct. 9(?)—Fed. Dist. Judge Dave Ling, Phoenix, raps treatment of Nisei group during war as 101 Poston youth who refused to report for induction fined only one cent each; executive clemency seen.

Furutani currently hosts a Sunday talk show on radio station FM 107 KMAX, a dynamic Sansei speaker. Sansei are urged to hear him.

Those who cannot attend can join or renew membership by mail through Mrs. Ida Yasutake, 292

Monterey JACL Hall being repainted

MONTEREY, Ca.—Clean-up and repainting the Monterey JACL Hall commenced the last weekend in August as chapter volunteers turned out to start the renovation project by scraping off the old paint.

Among them was George Takahashi, recently elected the mayor of Marina, successor to Robert Ouye who had resigned for health reasons. JACL Board hosted a retirement party for Ouye Sept. 23 at Chinese Village.

Chapter is holding a rummage sale at the hall Oct. 17.

Marin invitational volleyball tourney set

SAN RAFAEL, Ca.—Teams of all levels of play are planning to participate in the 5th annual Marin JACL-NCWNPDC volleyball tournament Oct. 11, 9 a.m. at Terra Linda High school gym for the Sumitomo Bank first prize trophy.

Teams must be registered at \$30 for the first squad and \$10 additional per squad. For info: Paula Shimizu (415) 544-6575 or 459-5366.

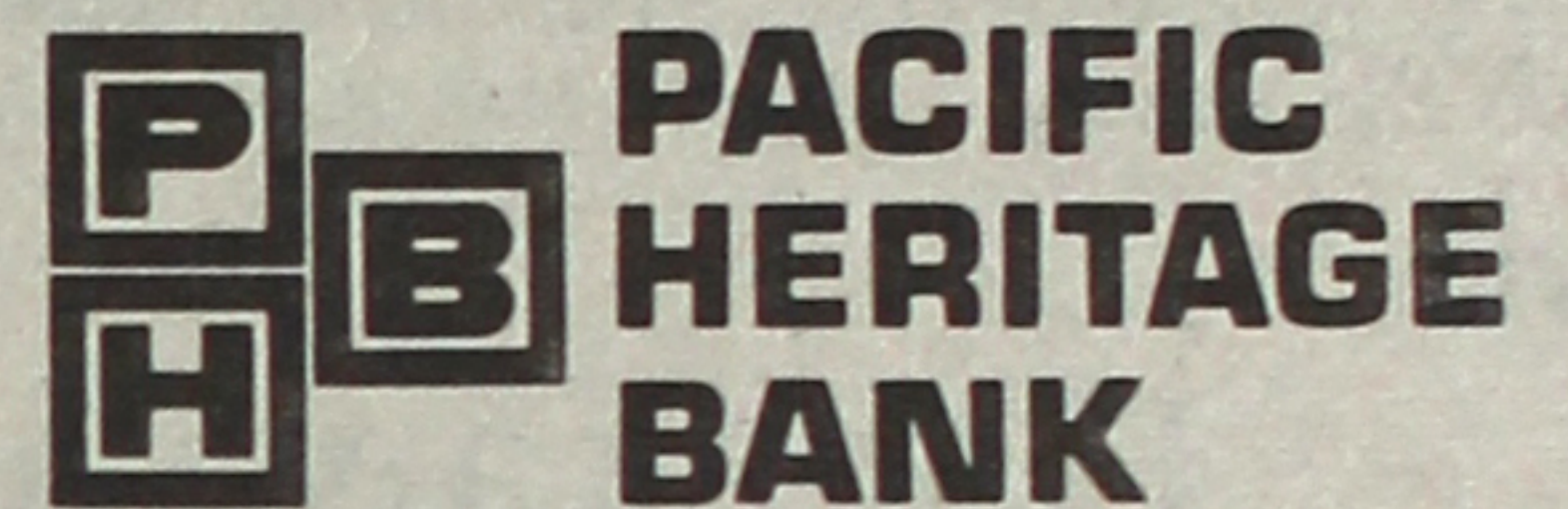
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Hobbyist returns '47 ronin' sword

LOS ANGELES—A samurai sword once carried by Yoshida Kanesuke, one of the 47 ronin of "Chushingura" fame, was returned Oct. 2 by history buff Gerald Wilda of Lomita to its rightful owner, the Sengaku-ji Temple, Tokyo, in a ceremony at the Japanese Consulate General here.

The sword was removed in 1946. Wilda, who collects Japanese swords, came across it at an antique arms show in 1964.

Koto music set for Huntington Library

SAN MARINO, Ca.—Miss Utashi Kagami of Tokyo will present a program of koto music in the Japanese house at the Huntington Library, Art Gallery and Botanical Gardens located at 1151 Oxford Rd., on Tuesday, October 13 at 1:30 and 2:30 p.m.

According to Kazuko Sugisaki, a reader at the Huntington Library and a professor at Oberlin College, Tokyo, Miss Kagami is one of the preeminent koto players in Japan.

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PC PEOPLE

Awards

San Francisco police officer **Rod Nakanishi** was awarded a bronze medal of valor at a local police commission meeting Sept. 16 for tackling a fleeing bank robber on Feb. 10. Nakanishi joined the force in February of last year and is part of the SFPD's Southeast Station.

Business

Japan born **Tommy Izumi** has been appointed domestic director of Far East sales for Hilton Hotels Corp., according to James C. Collins, senior vice president of marketing, to service Far East travel agents, wholesalers and U.S. ground operators. He will be working with members of Hilton's National Sales regional offices in New York and California. He was formerly director of sales-corporate accounts for Hilton's National Sales regional office in Los Angeles.

Government

China-born **Julia Chang Bloch**, nominated by President Reagan and confirmed by the U.S. Senate, was sworn in Sept. 23 as assistant administrator for food for peace and voluntary assistance in the

Agency for Instational Development, Washington, D.C. Her family came to the U.S. in 1951 and settled in San Francisco. She graduated in communication and public policy from UC Berkeley in 1964, earned a masters in government and regional studies in East Asia from Harvard and is married to Stuart Bloch, a Washington lawyer. She began her government career as a Peace Corps volunteer in 1964, moved to the staff of the Senate select committee on nutrition in 1971, and appointed in 1977 to a deputy director post at International Communications Agency.

Press Row

A contributor and consultant to many Nisei publications, **Charles L. Leong** has been appointed chairman of the publications committee of the San Francisco Press Club, a 2,500-member group that is nearly a century old. Leong has been on the staffs of San Francisco dailies

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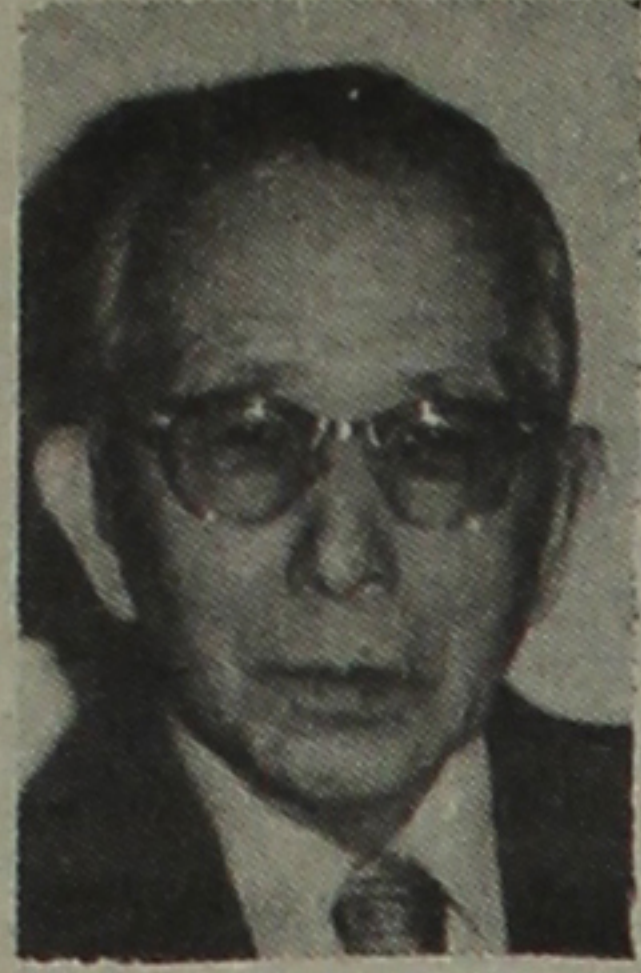
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MOSHI—MOSHI: by Jin Konomi

Mrs. Kato's Class

Berkeley, Ca.

About a year ago I visited an unusual, and probably unique, class for seniors. The *Sakubun Kyoshitsu*, an action of the East Bay Japanese for Action of Berkeley, Calif. Fifteen or sixteen women in the high seventies and mid-eighties were resharping their long unused skill in composition, and with the kindly tutoring of Mrs. Mizue Kato, a (recent) former teacher of Ochanomizu, one of the elite of girls' high schools in Tokyo, were now engaged in the ambitious task of writing their autobiographies, with a view to publication later. Think of all the functional illiterates with high school diplomas, college freshmen who have to be taught the basic syntax and spelling of English, and the highly paid bureaucrats whose pompous, turgid prose can be paraphrased with one quarter the verbiage, and you can agree with me this probably was a unique class.

As I came away I could not help reflecting and wondering, with pride, on the memorable scene which I had just witnessed. These Japanese women, all of advanced age, obviously enjoying this highly sophisticated exercise of the human intellect, namely creative writing, did not at all fit the molds of old ladies whose idea of good time playing the bingo or making silly useless things to show one another.

Do some other elderly of other ethnic groups or communities have a program like this? (I've never heard or read of one). Whoever had the inspiration, what a happy idea it was to turn their leisure energy to something challenging and stimulating, like producing written records of their lives, part of the Nikkei-jin's early history which is rapidly being forgotten.

I had often wondered if the project got finished, and how it turned out. Then the other day I was presented with a copy of

Watakushitachi no Kiroku (Our Records), a collection of autobiographies by twelve of the class. Multigraphed on plates which were handscripted as a labor of love by Mrs. Kato, it is a handsome book with a very *shibui* cover picture of a Yin dynasty (ca 1100 B.C.) wine jar from the Sumitomo collection.

The twelve stories belie many of the stereotypes of the Japanese immigrant women still entertained by some Americans, no doubt including some *Sansei* and *Yonsei*. Without exception the writers come from well-to-do families. One is descended from Sasaki Takatsuna, the hero of a very famous episode of the struggle for power between the Taira and Minamoto clans. One had a long line of hereditary amanuenses to the shogun's government (the original is a little unclear as to which officials they were amanuenses to) on the paternal side, and a lady in waiting to one of the shogun's lesser wives as a grandmother. Two of them came to America as first class passengers. One began her American life in a house of her own and had a maid. They were well educated by the day's standard. At least one read *Fujin Koron*, a middle to high brow women's magazine, somewhat on the same intellectual level as *Century*, *Harper's* and *Atlantic Monthly*.

Unavoidably there is a certain sameness to all the stories except two. The writers share pretty much the same sort of experience. They tried to cover their long lifetimes in a straightforward, beginning to end narrative. Some give a few incidents and details of their early lives which are interesting even to me who has lived more than sixty years in America, but there are not nearly enough of them. The two exceptions, "A Voyage Across the Pacific", and "Anguish of a Mother with Military Age Sons" take the short story approach, limiting their stories to single episodes of their lives.

Probably these two offer a suggestion as to how future collections of autobiographies may be improved. Why can't they focus their efforts on some single episodes, incidents, or persons? In other words, why can't they write short stories? They will be literature in their own right. Some Japanese writers have been writing so many stories of the Japanese immigrants from sketchy observations and hurried interviews. One was made into a TV series which got many old timers' backs up because it was so untrue. It is about time more Issei and early Nisei wrote the true stories of their lives.

I understand that Mrs. Kato's class is still going strong, and is preparing a second book. I offered the gratuitous suggestion in the hope there will be other classes as well which will encourage the seniors to commit to writing their precious experience which will be forgotten forever otherwise.

And I hope the PC readers will remember this little article, for East Bay Japanese for Action is planning to have the book translated into English. In spite of all its shortcomings it is a worthy book. I confess I almost cried at several passages.

Aged population in Japan increasing

TOKYO—Percentage of people over age 65 in Japan has almost doubled in a generation's time, from 4.8% in 1947 to 9.3% in 1980, the Prime Minister's Office revealed. But it is still less than in some Western nations where such percentages range between 10 and 15%. [The 1977 U.S. Census report shows U.S. percentage to be 10.8%.]

In numbers, Japan has 10.9 million aged persons. Oldest person is Shigechiyo Izumi, 115, of Kagoshima-ken who made news Sept. 15 (Keiro-no-Hi/Respect for the Aged Day) when Prime Minister Suzuki met him and the Ueki quintuplets who were born in March, 1980.

Noted for the longevity of its citizens, Japan now has 1,072 centenarians—no other country has more than 1,000 persons 100 years old and over. Average life span of the Japanese is the longest in the world with men living 73.32 years and women 78.83 years, the Daily Yomiuri pointed out.

Library bid for Nikkei collection hits snag

TOKYO—J.M. Dinken, a U.S. art dealer here, claimed the National Diet Library is trying to cheat him out of a commission for his service in trying to bring into Japan a valuable collection of some 1,700 books and other items on Japanese and other Asian immigrants in the U.S.

It had been reported the Diet Library was planning to acquire the collection from Yoshio Kishi of New York for about ¥10 million through an art dealer. Dinken claims he is that dealer who made known the contact. "Usually the owner's name is not revealed until a transaction is nearing finalization," he said. Dinken learned the Diet Library sent an official to deal with Kishi directly and feels he has been left out in the cold.

Sunken Czarist ship yielding no treasure

NAGASAKI—A year has passed since salvagers started operations to raise the 8,524-ton Czarist cruiser sunk off Tsushima Islands during the Russo-Japanese war but no treasure has been recovered, Ryo-ichi Sasakawa was told.

Sasakawa (grand marshal of the 1980 Nisei Week parade) is president of the Japan Shipbuilding Foundation, sponsors of the salvage operation expected to cost over 7 billion yens. About 30% of the cruiser has been searched, yielding brass spoons, ammunition, lamps and other minor items.

What's Happening

JACL Events are identified by the name of chapter/district in bold face. Other community events show the locale set in light face.

- OCT. 9 (Friday)
 - Nat'l JACL—Bd & staff mtg (Fri 7pm-sun noon), JACL Hq., San Francisco.
 - Watsonville—75th Ann'y Buddhist Temple dnr-dance, Seascap Golf Clubhouse, Aptos, 7pm.
- OCT. 10 (Saturday)
 - Florin/Elk Grove—Comm reunion (2-da), Sat bang, Woodlake Quality Inn.
 - Sonoma County—JAYS Keiro-kai dnr, Enmanji Hall, 6pm.
- OCT. 11 (Sunday)
 - Marin City/NC-WNPDC—Invit volley-ball tour, Terra Linda HS, San Rafael.
 - San Gabriel Valley—Aki Matsuri, ESGVJCC, West Covina, 12n-10pm.
 - Selano—Golf tour, El Prado Course, 11:30am.
 - West Valley—Clubhouse mortgage burning party, JACL Clubhouse; dnr at London Ribs.
 - Los Angeles—Maryknoll Men's Club spaghetti dnr, Maryknoll Auditorium, 12-6pm.
 - San Francisco—Food-fun bazaar, Christ United Presbyterian Ch.
- 10am-5pm.
 - San Francisco—SFSU-JASC seminar: 1906 S.F. school segregation of Japanese students, Kunko Church hall, 1pm; Prof. Jim Okutsu, proj dir.
- OCT. 12 (Monday)
 - Las Vegas—Gen mtg, Osaka Restaurant, 7:30pm.
- OCT. 13 (Tuesday)
 - Santa Cruz—JACP show at Cal Educ Exhibs, Coconut Grove, 2-6pm; 14th: Monterey Conv Ctr, 2-6pm; 24th: San Jose Conv Ctr Hall, 9am-3pm.
- OCT. 17 (Saturday)
 - Riverside—Sendai Festiv, Canyon Crest Shopping Ctr.
 - Las Vegas—Chapter luau, Paradise Pk, 11am-3pm.
 - San Francisco—Pine United Meth C 95th anny dnr, Jack Tar Hotel, 7pm.
 - El Cerrito—EJJA/Sakurai-Kai art auction, EC Comm Ctr, 7007 Moeser Ln, 6pm.
- OCT. 18 (Sunday)
 - Cincinnati—Bd mtg, Benny Okura's, 1:30pm.

• "Really, Pete, I think you have to come out with the kind of publication that we Nisei sorely needed. All the books so far, our JARP's included, are so damned sober... they don't give a glimpse of the camaraderie, the humor, the impertinences that go back and forth and that have developed among the Nisei and their non-Nisei colleagues in the workplace...
"I have especially enjoyed your humor that is laced through your book, because it is the same as mine that I have enjoyed uproariously with my friends..."
—Shig Wakamatsu, Chairman, JACL-JARP Exec. Comm.



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