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Friday, June 5, 1987

Ind. Senator Becomes 74th Co-Sponsor

WASHINGTON — Senate redress bill S. 1009 gained the support of Sen. J. Danforth Quayle (R-Ind.) on May 20.

Quayle, who was elected to a second term last year, joins fellow Indiana Republican Richard Lugar as a co-sponsor of the bill. Lugar was an original co-sponsor when Sen. Spark Matsunaga (D-Hawaii) introduced the bill on April 10.

The bill now has 74 co-sponsors, of which 45 are Democrats and 29 are Republicans.

Sen. Adams Explains Why He Backs Bill

SEATTLE — Sen. Brock Adams (D-Wash.), in a letter which appeared in the April 30 issue of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, gave his reasons for co-sponsoring redress bill S. 1009.

The letter, written in response to an April 23 Post-Intelligencer editorial favoring redress (see May 8 PC), read as follows:

"Thank you for your editorial recommending monetary reparations for victims of the United States' internment of citizens of Japanese ancestry during WW2.

"It is incumbent upon the U.S. government—and the U.S. as a nation—to provide some measure of restitution to these 'wronged Americans,' as the P-I aptly calls those citizens who were incarcerated during the war.

"Many in Congress share my concern about this matter. A bill now before the Senate, of which I am a principal co-sponsor, would pay \$20,000 to each citizen who suffered this horrible injustice.

"I have basic normal, moral and personal reasons for sponsoring this legislation. I watched as one-third of my classmates at Broadway High School lose their freedom in 1942 as U.S. Army troops pulled them and their families from their homes and transported them to relocation camps.

"I am proud to say that much of the nationwide citizen action movement which has brought us closer to a national act of redress included the efforts of many Washington state citizens. The citizens of this state have done their part in attempting to right this wrong. They now look to their national representatives to follow suit.

"History cannot be undone and whatever we do will never measure up to past losses and suffering. But as a democracy, we must do what is within our power to provide remedies for violations of our own laws and principles."

Adams, who was elected last year, was an original co-sponsor of the bill. His predecessor, Slade Gorton (R), was also a co-sponsor during the previous session of Congress.



Photo by J.K. Yamamoto

TOP TEACHERS — Nine educators were saluted during this year's Asian Pacific American Heritage Week dinner in Los Angeles. Front row, from left: Eleanor Chow, Judy Chu, William Chun-Hoon, Mabel Ota, Lucie Cheng; back row, from left: Paul Yokota, Francis Nakano, M. Jack Fujimoto, Mayor Tom Bradley, Warren Furutani. (Story on back page.)

Anti-Redress Material Sent to Members of Congress, Media

WASHINGTON — A letter opposing redress and bearing the names of former Sen. S.I. Haya-kawa (R-Calif.), former National Security Agency official David Lowman and former Chief of Army Intelligence Edgar Doleman was sent last month to all members of Congress and "the print and broadcast media and wire services."

Included with the letter were photocopies of wartime photographs purportedly showing "action taken by pro-Japan 'patriotic organizations' to subvert pro-American activities" and a commentary by Lowman, entitled "Payoff is Shameful Sellout," that appeared in the May 12 edition of the San Diego Union.

Among the statements made in the letter are:

"That of the 112,000 (not 120,000) residents of Japanese ancestry (RJA's) evacuated from our West Coast... over 40% were enemy aliens;

"That the U.S. Supreme Court ruled the exclusion constitutional in light of precedents that the national peril takes precedence over civil rights and stated that entering a relocation center was not mandatory;

"That when FDR signed E.O. [Executive Order] 9066... he had overwhelming information from both U.S. and Imperial Japan

sources that large numbers of RJA's had been organized into nets for spying and sabotage for Japan;

"That [U.S. Navy Intelligence officer] Commander [K.D.] Ringle... considered 25% of all Americans of Japanese ancestry (AJA's) of doubtful loyalty... and that Senator [Daniel] Inouye subsequently acknowledged the danger of Japan's invasion of our West Coast. He said but for the breaking of Japan's secret codes, 'the Pacific conflict might have been waged on the coast of California'... *Double-Edged Secrets: U.S. Naval Intelligence Operations in the Pacific During World War II*, W.J. Holmes (1979);

"That the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) gave two postwar testimonial dinners to honor Dillon S. Myer, director of the War Relocation Authority...

"That the WRA centers had the highest live-birth rate and the lowest death rate in wartime USA...

"That hundreds of RJA's residing in states unaffected by E.O. 9066 asked for and were granted permission to enter and reside in the centers for the duration of the war;

"That 35,000 RJA's left the centers for new jobs and homes, and 4,000 AJA's left to attend college or university, including Wm. M.

Continued on next page

High Court Sends NCJAR Suit Back to Lower Court

WASHINGTON — The class action lawsuit filed by National Council for Japanese American Redress suffered a setback when the Supreme Court ruled June 1 in an 8-0 vote that the case must be remanded to the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals.

The opinion, written by Justice Lewis Powell, sided with the government, which had argued before the Court on April 20 that the case was improperly heard by the District of Columbia Court of Appeals rather than the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals. The government had also claimed that the lawsuit was filed long after the six-year statute of limitations on damage claims had expired; the Court, however, made no ruling on this issue.

William Hohri of the Chicago-based NCJAR, in an interview with PC, called the ruling "scandalous."

"They ducked the issue," he said. "They did what I thought they would not do because the issue has become so public... they wanted to avoid making a decision... I don't think anybody is fooled."

NCJAR has contended that the statute of limitations should be extended because government documents supporting the plaintiffs' case were not discovered until the early 1980s. The court "may never get around to addressing that issue," said Hohri.

'Wartime Suspension of Constitution'

"Wartime suspension of the Constitution... obviously the most critical issue... couldn't have been before them in clearer terms," he added. "There's a substantial number of victims who will die between now and the time that we finally get into trial or get some sort of settlement."

The suit, filed in 1983, was dismissed in 1984 by U.S. District Judge Louis Oberdorfer, who ruled that the statute of limitations had long since expired. A three-judge panel of the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals overturned that decision in January 1986. The government sought a rehearing by the full D.C. Court of Appeals, but the petition was denied by a 6-6 vote in May 1986. Both NCJAR and the government sought a Supreme Court review of the case; the government's petition was granted in November.

The case must now be heard by a three-judge panel of the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals. According to Hohri, Federal Circuit Judge Howard Markey, who issued a dissenting opinion on the NCJAR case last year while "on loan" to the D.C. court, will not take part in the next ruling.

Justice Harry Blackmun said in a brief concurrence that the case is likely to return to the Court in one or two years.

Hohri agreed, saying that the case "will still go back to the Supreme Court and the Court will have to deal with these issues [because] one side or the other will appeal the decision."

"What's the point of all this?" he asked. "It's just an exercise that's going to take a lot of time and a lot of money."

Reaction From Congressmen

"I must emphasize that the decision addressed only the technical issue of which court had jurisdiction to hear the case," said Rep. Norman Mineta (D-Calif.). "The question of the case's merits was not addressed at all."

Mineta, who is pushing for passage of redress legislation in Congress, continued, "Our efforts for redress will continue. The processes of our legal system must be allowed to work to completion, even though the time and effort demanded may sometimes frustrate us."

Rep. Robert Matsui (D-Calif.) said, "I'm disappointed that the Supreme Court did not take the opportunity to address the merits of the case. We had hoped that the Supreme Court would finally comment on the internment as a violation of basic constitutional rights... unfortunately, we are still waiting for the day when Japanese Americans will get a full apology from their government."

"This is a setback, but it is definitely not the end of the Hohri case. The case will continue to bring more national attention to the internment, and I'm hopeful that we will prevail in the end."

Pioneer Nisei Aviator Henry Ohye Dead at 77

NORTHRIDGE, Calif. — Henry Ohye, founder of the Japanese American Aeronautics Association and the first Nisei to cross the Pacific in a single-engine airplane, died May 12. He was 77.

The retired auto dealer died in a Northridge hospital after falling and striking his head while visiting his granddaughter.

Ohye first became interested in flying during his boyhood in Watsonville, Calif. He saved his money for flying lessons and made his first solo flight in 1931. In 1933, he became the first Japanese American to receive a commercial transport pilot's license.

Unable to work for an airline because of his Japanese ancestry, he opened a flying school at Mines Field (now the site of Los Angeles International Airport) and held air shows with other Nisei pilots.

Ohye was rejected by the Army Air Corps because of his race when he attempted to volunteer after the outbreak of WW2. He and his family were interned in the Gila River, Ariz., camp.

After the war, he organized the Japanese American Aeronautics Association and established the Henry Ohye Trophy Races. The Los Angeles-to-Chicago race was

originally limited to Japanese Americans, who were still banned from becoming commercial or military pilots; it was eventually opened to flyers of all races.

In 1964, Ohye flew his single-engine Piper Comanche, named the "Toku-Hana" after his parents, from Oakland, Calif., to Tokyo via Honolulu, Midway, Wake, Guam, and Okinawa. He was the first Japanese American to accomplish this feat; Masaichi Goto, a Los Angeles Issei, died in the attempt in 1929.

He is survived by his wife Rose, daughter Jean Kubota, three grandchildren and four sisters.



Kashu Mainichi Photo

Henry Ohye

Discrimination Charges Are Dropped in N.Y. Assault Case

BROOKLYN, N.Y.—Three teenagers who were arrested and charged in connection with a Jan. 30 attack on three Chinese American high school students were each sentenced by Judge William Miller to 72 hours of community service and a \$100 fine.

According to the Brooklyn District Attorney's office, the defendants—Peter Capobianco, Ricardo Otero, and Rosario Ferrera, all 16—pleaded guilty to harassment. The original charges of assault, discrimination, and criminal possession of a weapon were dropped.

Wai Min Wong and Wing Chung Ng, both 17, and Wai Fung Chan,

19, were attacked in the Bayridge area of Brooklyn by 10 to 15 white male students who, according to the victims, were shouting "You f—ing Chinese, get out of this neighborhood." The Asian students were beaten with fists and a cane. One student required five stitches on the back of his head.

Although the bias investigating unit of the police department was involved in the investigation, the discrimination charges were dropped because the victims could not identify which of the assailants had said which slur, according to the D.A.'s office.

—from a report by New York Nichibei

Actor, Congressman to Speak at AAJA Scholarship Dinner

SACRAMENTO — Actor Sab Shimono will be keynote speaker and Rep. Robert Matsui (D-Calif.) will be the special guest at the scholarship banquet of the Asian American Journalists Association, Sacramento chapter, to be held June 6, 6-9 p.m., at the Woodlake Inn, Highway 160 and Canterbury Road.

Shimono, who has appeared in several plays, films, and television shows, was most recently seen in the movie "Blind Date" and the "Gung Ho" movie and TV series. He will present scholar-

ships to journalism students at the banquet.

Matsui, who represents the Sacramento area, was first elected to the House in 1978. He sits on the House Ways and Means Committee.

The banquet committee is chaired by Corinne Fat, Sydnie Kohara and Sandra Yep, all of KCRA-TV, and Wayne Miyao of California Newspaper Publishers Association. Admission is \$15 students, \$20 general. Info: Wayne Miyao, (916) 443-5991, or Sydnie Kohara, (916) 971-0444.

AP Women to Hold 4th State Conference

LOS ANGELES — The Asian Pacific Women's Network will hold its fourth biennial state conference, "Making Waves," June 27-28 at the Airport Marriott Hotel.

Keynote speakers will be: Jean Shinoda Bolen, Jungian analyst and author of *Tao and Synchronicity*, *Goddesses in Everywoman*, and *The Grail and the Goddess*; and Adele Scheele, career strategist, columnist, and author of *Skills for Success: A Guide to the Top for Men and Women* and *Making College Pay*.

Seminar topics will include "Taking the Plunge: Risk-Taking/Success-Making"; "Case Breakers: Legal Breakthroughs for Women"; "Superwoman: Coming Up for Air"; "Keeping Current: Male/Female Synergy"; "Making and Directing Waves: Empowerment and Beyond"; and "On the Crest or Recession? Asian Pacific Women in 1987."

Among the speakers will be Maelley Tom, state Sen. David Roberti's office; Georgette Imura, state Office of Asian American Affairs; psychologists Paula Ota, Sam Chan, and Kenyon Chan; counselors Audrey Yamagata-Noji and Lilly Nakamura; fashion consultant Denise Yamaichi; Los Angeles Times business reporter Nancy Yoshihara; and J.D. Hokoyama, Asian Pacific American Student Services, USC.

The \$45 registration fee should be sent to Chris Ung, Mayor's Office, 200 N. Spring St., Los Angeles 90012, by June 21. Late registration is \$50.

Info: Los Angeles—Betty, (213) 295-6571; Sacramento—Marian Uchida, (916) 643-2970; Bay Area—Shirley Wong, (408) 298-2128; Fresno—Mae Takahashi, (209) 431-4142; San Diego—Maria de la Cruz, (619) 428-0275.

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ANTI-REDRESS

Continued from front page

Marutani, now a judge and member of the CWRIC [Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians];

"That of the 10,000 AJA's residing in the WRA centers and who were eligible for military service ... only 1,208 volunteered;

"That the only 'atrocities' in the WRA centers were committed by those loyal to the Emperor against residents who were pro-American ..."

The two photographs, both said to be taken at the Tule Lake camp, show "pro-Japan literature being printed" and "Hokoku Seinen Dan, a pro-Japan patriotic organization ... one of several subversive organizations operating on the West Coast."

Lowman's article attacks the redress legislation pending in Congress and accuses the government of "falling over back-

wards to rewrite history in order to appease the powerful Japanese American lobby."

He goes on to state that wartime intelligence reports "describe large-scale organized espionage by West Coast Japanese and conclude that they were indeed considered to be a security threat to the United States at the start of World War II."

Referring to the Department of Justice's statement before the Supreme Court on April 20 that the internment was "deplorable" and "racist," Lowman castigates the "spineless administration which has the facts but not the courage to defend wartime measures taken to defend the nation ... with what appeared at the time to be adequate justification."

Rep. Norman Mineta (D-Calif.) dismissed the allegations in the letter as "entirely fiction."

Photo Exhibit on Internment to Be Displayed in N. Carolina

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — "Executive Order 9066," a touring exhibit of photographs of the WW2 internment camps for Japanese Americans, will be on display at The Light Factory, 110 E. 7th St., from June 5-30.

Most of the 84 images in the exhibit were taken by noted photographer Dorothea Lange for the

War Relocation Authority. The remainder are by government photographers, newspapers, and individuals, including the late Ansel Adams.

The exhibit was suggested by Lange and assembled by her assistant, Richard Conant, and his wife Maisie, mainly from material in the National Archives.

The exhibit was produced by the California Historical Society and is co-sponsored by the Washington, D.C. Chapter JACL. A reception for chapter members will be held June 6, 6-8 p.m.

The Light Factory is a non-profit photographic organization. Info: (704) 333-9755.

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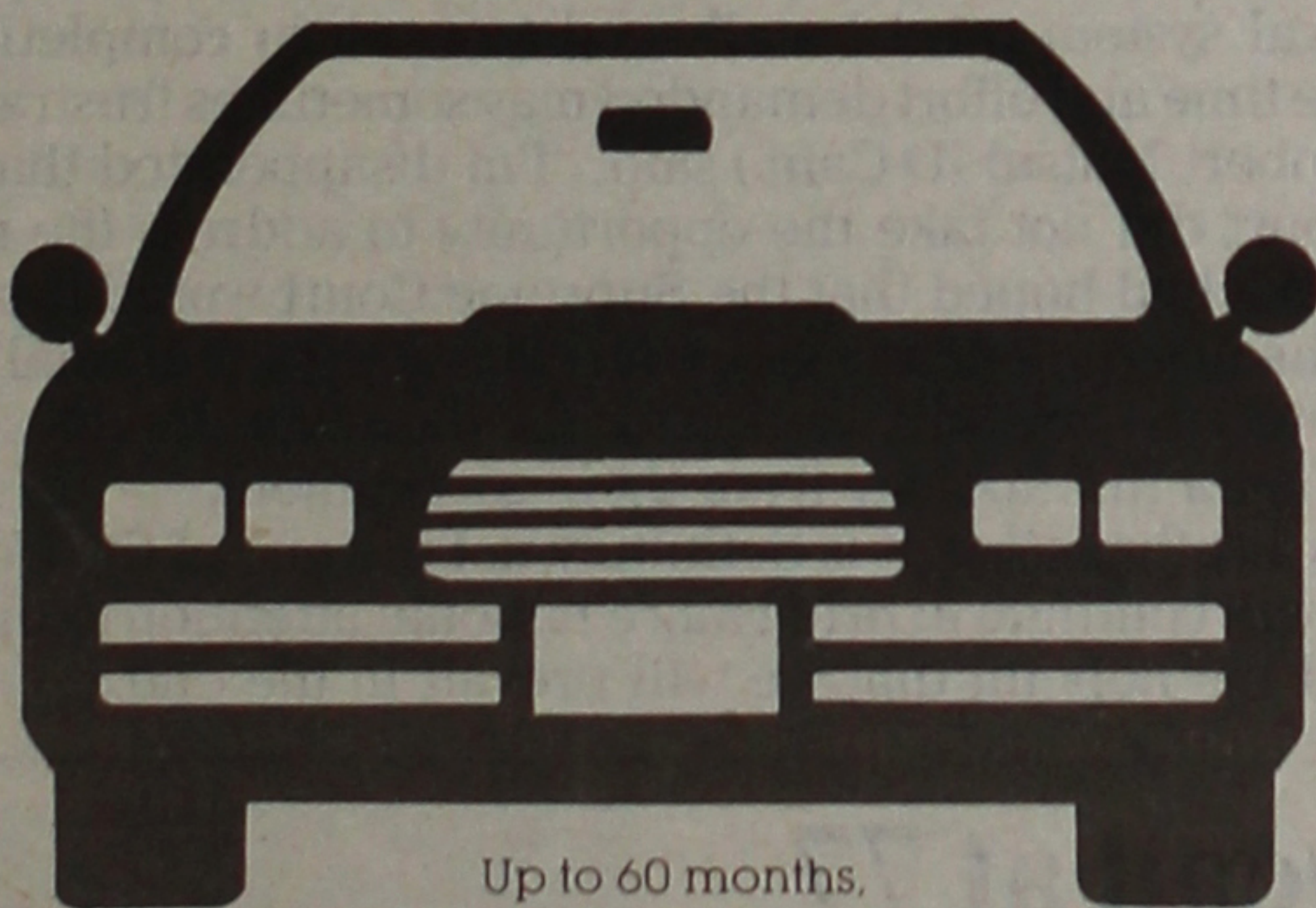
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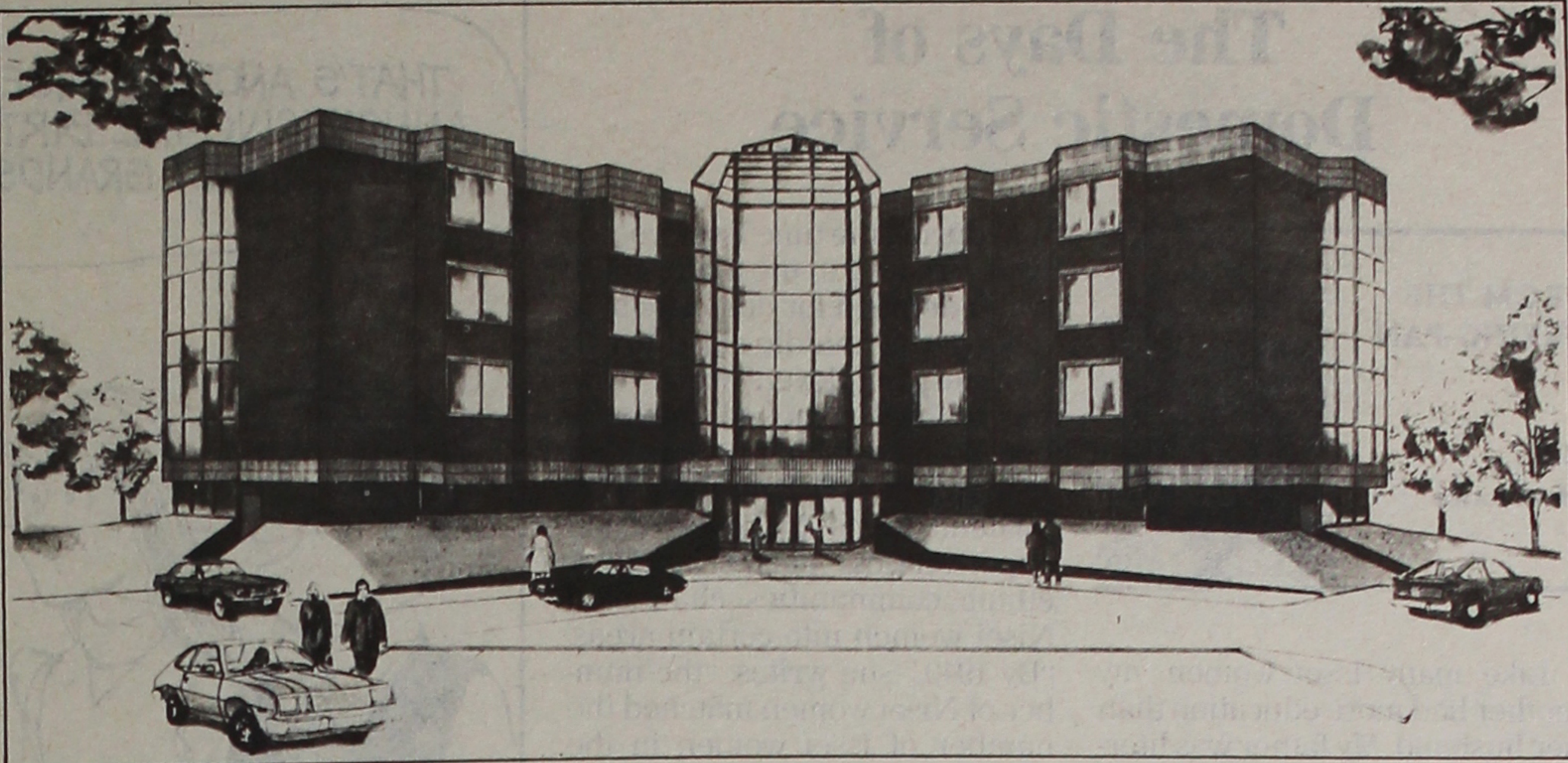
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Bill to Fund Internment Film Passed by Second Committee

SACRAMENTO — Funds for educational films on the internment of Japanese Americans during WW2 and the mass killings of Armenians by the Ottoman Empire beginning in 1915 were approved May 22 by the Assembly Ways and Means Committee. Assembly Bill 1375, authored by Speaker Pro Tempore Mike Roos (D-Los Angeles), appropriates \$115,000 from the General Fund to develop the two films for use in the public schools. The Assembly Education Committee approved the bill April 27. "I feel it is especially important to focus on these two historical events," said Roos, "since both of them had, and continue to have, a significant influence on the lives of California citizens. "Many survivors and descendants of Japanese Americans and Armenians who suffered the consequences of these terrible events are living in California today. If we are to fully embrace them in our society, we must educate our young about our past mistakes so they are not destined to repeat them." Leaders from the Japanese American and Armenian communities testified in support of the bill.



Artist's conception of proposed Chicago Keiro Nursing Home.

Funds Being Raised for Chicago Nursing Home

CHICAGO — The Japanese American Service Committee has launched a preliminary campaign to raise funds for development and construction of a nursing home for the Japanese American community. Approximately \$7.8 million will be needed to construct the Chicago Keiro Nursing Home, a 150-bed skilled care nursing center, at a 4.5-acre site on the southeast corner of Foster Avenue and Pulaski Road. JASC's Nursing Home Fund-Raising Committee plans to raise a minimum of \$1 million from the JA community. The remainder is expected to come from private financing and the sale of industrial revenue bonds.

JASC, which provided living facilities for senior citizens through the Heiwa Terrace complex in 1980, is seeking to meet the culinary, language and cultural needs of Nikkei seniors. Chicago Keiro Nursing Home will be the only such ethnically-oriented facility east of the Rockies. The architectural firm of Nakawatase, Wynn and Associates, which constructed Heiwa Terrace, will also build the nursing home. The 70,000-square-foot facility will include therapy/activity rooms, dining rooms, meeting/conference rooms, off-street parking and a Japanese garden.

Members of the Nursing Home Committee are chair Richard Yamada, Kenji Aimi, Colin Hara, Noboru Honda, Paul Kadowaki, Kate Kuzuhara, Arthur Morimitsu, Betty Nakanishi, Masaru Nambu, Elaine Nemoto, Chieko Onoda, Thomas Teraji and Nancy Yoshida. The project has been endorsed by such organizations as American Legion Chicago Nisei Post 1183, Chicago Japanese American Council, Japanese American Association of Chicago, Chicago JACL, Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Chicago, and Japanese Mutual Aid Society of Chicago, as well as several churches.

Donors of \$100 or more will be recognized on a plaque that will be displayed in the main lobby. The following categories have been established: Cornerstone—\$25,000 and over; Patron—\$10,000-24,999; Benefactor—\$5,000-9,999; Sponsor—\$2,500-4,999; Contributor—\$1,000-2,499; Friend—under \$1,000.

For more information, contact JASC at 4427 N. Clark St., Chicago, IL 60640; (312) 275-7212/13.

East West Offering 'Classics'

LOS ANGELES — Works by Eugene O'Neill and Edward Albee will be presented at East West Players, 4424 Santa Monica Blvd., as part of the American Classic Series. Benjamin Lum and Sab Shimono star in O'Neill's "Hughie" June 11-14 and 19-21 under the direction of Alberto Isaac. The two-character play is for the most part a monologue by a gambler named Erie Smith to the night clerk of a shabby New York hotel. Hughie is the name of the recently deceased night clerk of the same hotel. Albee's "The Zoo Story," starring Merv Maruyama and Keone Young and directed by Shizuko Hoshi, will be performed July 2-5 and 10-12. The drama involves two strangers who meet on a

park bench and find it nearly impossible to communicate with each other. One is a moderately successful family man, the other a lonely bohemian rebel. In addition to the evening shows, there will be 2 p.m. matinees on June 14 and July 5. Previously performed as part of the American Classic Series were "Lady of Larkspur Lotion" and "Hello From Bertha" by Tennessee Williams. Tickets for all performances are \$10. Student and senior discounts are available. Info: (213) 660-0366.

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The Days of Domestic Service

FROM THE FRYING PAN

Bill Hosokawa



Like many Issei women, my mother had more education than her husband. My father was literate, of course, and spoke well, and I've heard that he wrote with skill and feeling. But much of his learning was self-taught after the primary grades, while my mother had enough formal schooling to have been a teacher for several years before her marriage.

Yet when she came to the U.S. as a bride, she went to work as a domestic. I do not know the circumstances because I don't recall her talking much about it. It was probably in the home of some well-to-do Caucasian family.

And it is likely that while she and her husband needed the money, another important reason for taking the job was to learn the way things were done in an American home. Like making beds, washing windows, dusting furniture, doing the laundry, shopping for groceries, and preparing meals. Domestic work was a widely accepted means among Issei, both men and women, of acquiring an education as well as an income, such as it was.

(My father's first job after he arrived in the U.S. as an immigrant was as a laborer on a railroad section gang. But soon he left to work as a schoolboy, earning his keep as a part-time domestic.)

Thus it was with more than ordinary interest that recently I read Evelyn Nakano Glenn's *Issei, Nisei, War Bride*, a sociological study of three generations of Japanese American women in domestic service.

What factors drew them into domestic work? Glenn writes

that during the time Issei women were arriving in the States there was a demand for domestic help among the middle-class urban families. Employers were "willing to hire someone inexperienced and unable to speak English and train her on the job."

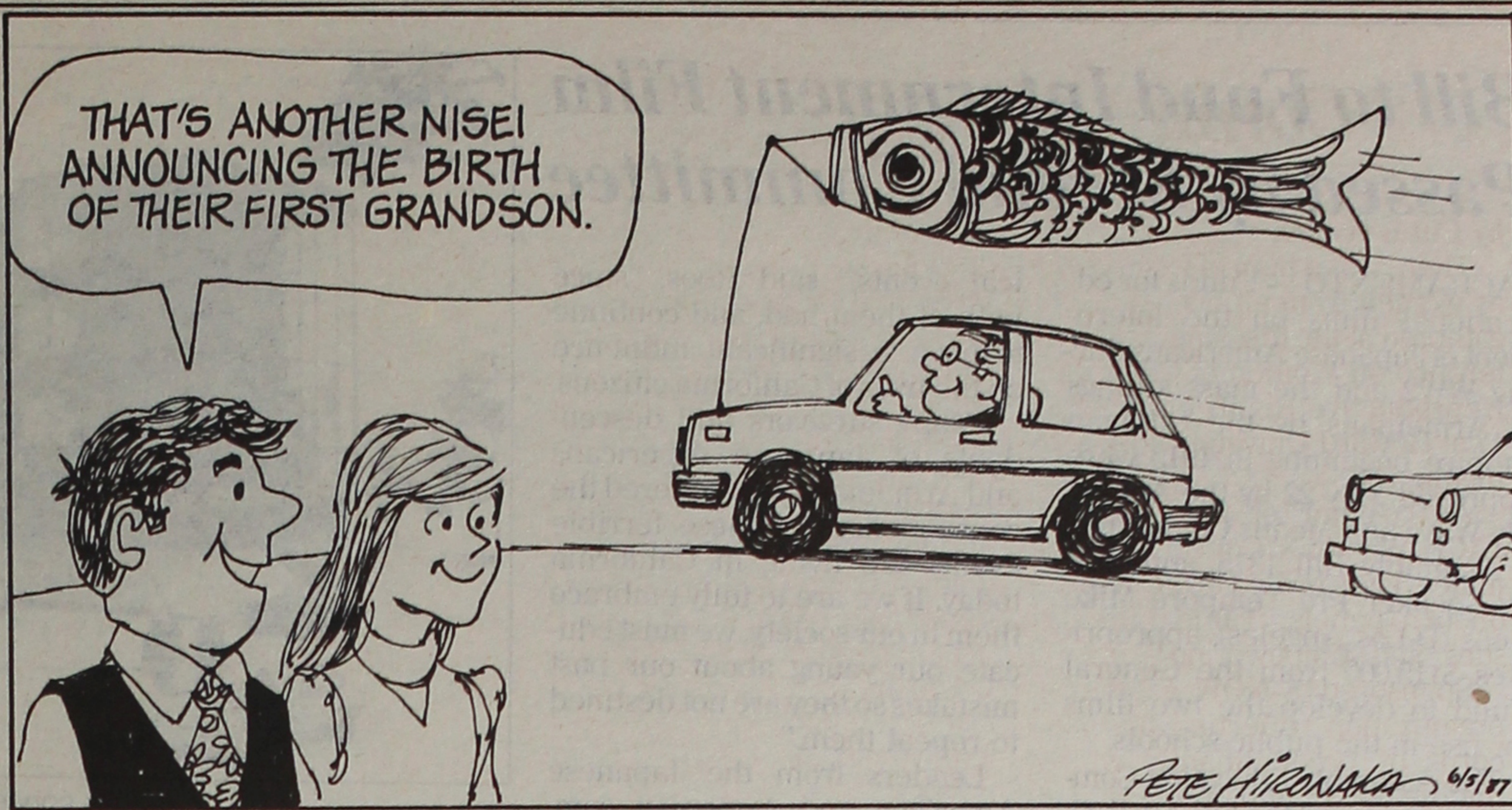
Glenn found that lack of job opportunities outside prewar ethnic communities channeled Nisei women into certain areas. "By 1940," she writes, "the number of Nisei women matched the number of Issei women in the labor force. Data from the 1940 census... shows three-quarters of all employed Nisei females were distributed in equal proportions among the three categories"—farming, domestic service, clerical and sales.

"Opportunities for white-collar work were limited. White business and government jobs were closed. Their only chance for white-collar work was in ethnic firms, which were generally small and marginal.... Thus, despite their American education and fluency in English, the Nisei's options were almost as restricted as their immigrant mothers'..." We know the evacuation helped change that.

Glenn is a Bay Area Sansei who was associate professor of sociology at Florida State when the book was published last year by Temple University Press. Currently she is with the department of sociology at the State University of New York at Binghamton.

While this is primarily a sociological study, Japanese American lay readers will find much to help them understand their history. Still, it is not easy reading for one who is not a scholar.

I hope Professor Glenn uses the excellent material she has assembled, particularly the interviews, to produce a book in a more popular vein, focusing on the human side—the hopes and frustrations, the satisfactions and disappointments—of women who for one reason or another found that serving others was a way to survive.



Pete Hironaka 6/5/87

AIDS and AFSC

EAST WIND

Bill Marutani



AS ONE WHO generally subscribes to the traditional, I do not deny that my views tend to be orthodox (There will be those who would vigorously challenge this assessment, from both sides.)

Take the matter of AIDS: acquired immune deficiency syndrome, a plague threatening to reach pandemic proportions. Perhaps not unlike many others, somewhat on a detached basis I consider the problem as serious, but remain detached. "It's someone else's problem." And if we honestly look into the deep recesses within ourselves, there may be a tinge of homophobia or moral judgment.

Well, I'm willing to listen and I'm working on trying to broaden my views. It's not always easy, I must say.

SO WHAT ABOUT the relationship between the acronyms, AIDS and AFSC? As most of us know, AFSC stands for American Friends Service Committee, a group which universally is re-

garded with respect. AFSC has been addressing the subject of AIDS and is preparing to step up its activities, promoting broad education on the subject as well as health care.

And in keeping with AFSC's ecumenical approach, its concerns seek to reach not only various minority groups and agencies in the U.S., but also other countries and other governments.

Apparently, the word "impossible" is not part of AFSC's lexicon, and perhaps that's one of the reasons that gives it the character that it has. They not only care but demonstrate that care by trying.

ACCORDING TO STATISTICS from the Center for Disease Control, as of March of this year there were over 32,000 reported cases of AIDS in the U.S. Further, it is reported that some 1.5 million people are already infected with the AIDS virus; that within the next four years some 270,000 will be reported with AIDS; and that 179,000 deaths will have resulted. The World Health Organization expects there will be somewhere between 50 to 100 million new cases in the next five years.

AIDS AMONG HETEROSEXUALS reportedly doubled as of this year, while among gay men the rate dropped to 60 percent. It is reported that in New York City, one in 250 persons is afflict-

ed with AIDS. A Black woman is 13 times more likely to contract the disease than a white woman; a Latina, 11 times more likely.

From an item I read in the newspaper, the People's Republic of China declines to regard the disease as a problem for its populace—insisting upon blood tests (which are unreliable) for foreigners in their midst.

I cannot help but wonder if perhaps their leaders are not deluding themselves. After all, one billion people were not created out of thin air.

SMUG AS ONE might be tempted to be in his/her "traditional orthodoxy," Asians, including Japanese Americans, are not by any means immune to this malady. And it is bound to strike someone within the community that you know, if it has not done so already.

Indeed, since blood transfusion is one of the ways by which the latent virus can be transmitted, for all I know (although in all honesty, I doubt it—but you never can tell) I could be a carrier, having received a blood transfusion some 15 years ago in a military hospital.

IT IS HOPED, at any rate, that should we confront someone who is afflicted, we will not be moralistic or judgmental; that we demonstrate some maturity and a bit of understanding.

Three Years — and \$40,000 — Later

by J.K. Yamamoto

In 1984, the PC staff was struggling with an old typesetting machine that had a tendency to break down when it was most needed. At one time or another, it became necessary to use other typesetting facilities, including those of our fellow Nikkei newspapers in the area.

An appeal for funds to purchase a new machine was made in the July 13, 1984 issue. One week later, we listed \$172 in donations. But even with that encouraging start, the target amount of \$40,000 seemed far out of reach,

especially since readers were being asked to contribute to a paper that they were already paying dues to support.

Donations continued to come in, and in 1985 PC was able to purchase a Mergenthaler CRTronic 200. With its wider range of type faces, type sizes, and other capabilities, the new machine helped improve the paper's appearance and enabled us to do more outside typesetting jobs. And with two machines instead of one, operations did not grind to a halt when one of them broke down.

Contributions ranged from as

little as \$2 from individuals to hundreds and even thousands from JACL chapters and districts, other community groups, businesses, foundations, and some very generous individuals.

The total continued to creep upward this year until, with a \$100 donation from Paul and Nancy Hackmeyer of Sherman Oaks, Calif., it exceeded \$40,000. The goal has been reached in just under three years.

All of us at PC would like to express our gratitude to the readers who responded to the plea for assistance. The support told us that readers believed in the PC, and the fact that the PC came out every week without fail over the past three years showed that your support made a difference.

Again, thank you very much. If you happen to be in downtown L.A., please drop by the office and take a look at the machine. (And if you'd like to learn how to operate it, we could use you; we're a little short-staffed.)

Donations to Pacific Citizen For Typesetting Fund

As of June 5, 1987: \$40,093.98 (915)
This week's total: \$ 100.00 (1)
Last week's total: \$39,993.98 (914)

\$100 from: Paul/Nancy Hackmeyer.

Thank You!

Letters to the Editor

Appointee's Viewpoint

It is a source of immense regret to me that you so deeply lament my recent appointment to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (May 15 PC). I responded to the request that I undertake this mission with the same foreboding and sense of duty that would have been occasioned by a call to serve under arms for the defense of my country.

The thought that there might be others who would far rather take on the burden, far from consoling, only mystifies me. For I wonder how it is that they had not so far distinguished themselves and made known the sacrifices they would be willing to make in order to serve our common interests so as to spare me, and my feeble talents, the probable chagrin that failure in this difficult task will occasion.

You seem in your anger to do a good job of counting noses by their colors. I regret that too. It seems to me that the task which confronts the commission is precisely to persuade Americans that such practices are utterly subversive of every decent hope we have had.

You perhaps feel slighted that, having applied for the slot, you did not receive it. I sincerely hope that you will be called on

to serve all of us, just as soon as you can give evidence of a disposition to do just that.

Your protest puts me in mind of a rather different circumstance at the founding of the United States. During the summer of 1787 the Constitutional Convention sat in Philadelphia. At the midpoint of that convention, its president, George Washington, received a letter from representatives of the Jewish synagogue in Philadelphia.

They requested his intervention to assure that the new Constitution would remove the civil liabilities under which they suffered at that time in Pennsylvania, whose constitution imposed a religious test calling for an oath of fidelity to both the Old and New Testaments. This was, to say the least, hard medicine for patriots who displayed their attachment to freedom and independence throughout the Revolutionary War and who had been model citizens besides.

How wonderful it is to contemplate that only the week before their letter was sent, the convention, working in its salutary secrecy, had unanimously adopted a provision proscribing religious tests for holding office under the United States. The fram-

Continued on page 5

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Common Concerns

by Chizu Iiyama

There was a hum of excitement as women from all over the U.S. gathered at the first National Conference on Women of Color and Reproductive Rights on May 15-17 at Howard University in Washington, D.C.

As co-chair of the National JACL Women's Concerns Committee, I was invited to participate on two panels, "Child Care Issues" and "Empowering Women."

Sponsored by NOW, a feminist organization reflecting the concerns of predominantly white, middle-class, and professional women, this conference was an attempt to broaden the scope of NOW's activities to include women of color.

And it was exhilarating to meet so many active, dedicated Black, Latino, Native American and Asian women sharing their experiences and their work in their respective communities. There were over 400 delegates, from places as far away as California, Texas, Minnesota, New Mexico, and Alaska.

Workshops included "School Clinics," "Teen Pregnancy," "Infant Mortality," "Population Control vs. Family Planning," and "Equal Rights Amendment."

There were about 10 Asians participating, mostly young women from California and New York. June Inuzuka, a public-interest attorney and president of Organization of Pan Asian American Women, the oldest national public policy organization for Asian and Pacific women, received a special award for her contributions to the women's movement.

Patsy Mink, former U.S. representative from Hawaii, was the keynote speaker, and she gave an inspiring, thoughtful presentation. She reminded the audience that we represent a large group of people; that today, people of color make up 25 percent of the U.S. population; and that in two generations, people of color will be in the majority.

She emphasized her concern for all people, especially those in circumstances where they need special help. She pointed to the feminization of poverty, the lack of support from governmental agencies (especially under the Reagan Administration), the need for health insurance and health care, affordable, quality child care, and realistic training programs.

She called on delegates to start politically at all levels—school boards, city councils, etc. She emphasized the need for working together on common concerns.

Washington, D.C. is the heart of politics, especially with the Iran-*contra* hearings holding center stage. From the time I took a cab from the airport, when my taxi driver asked me what I thought about Secord's testimony, to dinner conversations among the delegates about Iran, Nicaragua, and the legislative process, I was made acutely conscious of the importance of politics in our lives.

I attended a reception for David and Elizabeth Linder, who testified before a House Foreign Affairs subcommittee on the killing of their son Benjamin by the *contras* in Nicaragua. As a volunteer engineer, he was working on a project to generate electricity in a small village when he was murdered. The Linders spoke of their hostile treatment by Rep. Connie Mack (R-Fla.), who questioned their motives in speaking out against American support of the *contras*.

They pointed out that the *contras* attacked health centers, schools, and farms, and that civilians, including women and children, were their targets. I was especially drawn to Elizabeth Linder, a strong, articulate, and compassionate woman.

On my plane flight home, I had an opportunity to reflect on the workshops I attended, looking at women's concerns from a broader viewpoint. As Japanese Americans now in our second, third and fourth generations, we have been fortunate in developing a strong network of community support—for example, nutrition and housing for the elderly and health and counseling centers.

But there are many Asian families, primarily immigrants or refugees from Southeast Asia, who face difficult problems. For example, in researching the state of child care in our East Bay area, I found that 30 percent of applicants for low-cost child care sponsored by the school district were Asian; that in Oakland Chinatown, low-cost centers had over 500 families on their waiting lists. Many of these families were existing on jobs which paid minimum wages.

It was exciting to meet young Asian American women who are active as lawyers, union organizers, and developers of health centers and counseling services.

The feeling of unity at the conference among the Black, Latino, Native American and Asian women as they affirmed their strength and dedication was inspiring. With all that energy, we should make a difference.

Iiyama writes from El Cerrito, Calif.

LETTERS

Continued from page 4

ers had not been unmindful of their claims to full equality under the law.

Among the concerns which I have, and which I should dearly love to enlist your aid in, is the growing evidence that Americans are quota-izing themselves into a reign of separatism and unjust treatment of honest citizens.

Consider the following fall admission statistics for UC Berkeley this last year. Only considering the applicants whose academic records placed them near the average of all UC applicants, of Blacks and Hispanics 185 of 189 were accepted; of whites 124 of 1,199 were accepted; and of Asians only 32 of 484 were accepted.

I am wrong to conceive of this sorry record as a blemish on our heritage of the rule of law and

even-handed justice? If I am not wrong, when am I going to hear an Asian voice raised in defense of our Constitution and in opposition to such manifest wrong?

I do not doubt that Asian aspirants to the Commission on Civil Rights would far better distinguish themselves for such an appointment by first distinguishing themselves as willing to carry the burden for defending liberty, speaking out and struggling to preserve an America in which we can all take pride above our idiosyncratic physiognomic distinctions.

Again, I regret your disappointment, and I earnestly entreat your cooperation.

WILLIAM B. ALLEN
Claremont, Calif.

With a Little Help From Our Friends

LEC UPDATE

Grayce Uyehara



The April 29 hearing on H.R. 442 and May 13 mark-up session are over. The good news: the bill was approved by the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Administrative Law and Governmental Relations and has moved to the full Judiciary Committee.

LEC appreciated the presence of National JACL president Harry Kajihara on the panel representing individuals who lost their freedom during WW2. His opening statement about JACL's role in seeking redress was the background for my testimony, which focused on the remedies, particularly the payment issue.

Chapter redress workers who sent copies of the replies they received to their letters to members of Congress played a great part in my testimony. The letters opposing the trust fund and the individual payments were the basis for the research I did prior to writing my testimony.

I addressed concerns raised by many MCs—why should funds be expended to rectify the injustice, why \$20,000 for surviving individuals, and why the Civil Liberties Education Trust Fund?

Foremost, in the writing of the testimony, I acknowledge and appreciate the work of Grant Ujifusa, LEC legislative chair. The written testimony has the imprint of his professional skills as an editor.

It seems that the testimony made it clear that for Japanese Americans who were exiled in their own country, there is no remedy without the individual payments. I sensed support from the ranking minority member, Rep. Clay Shaw (R-Fla.), who said to me after the hearing that he thought I had presented strong and informative testimony.

JACL and LEC always appreciate Mike Masaoka's counsel to this novice lobbyist, especially because of his personal generosity in giving his time and hospitality and sharing his influence

in the Washington scene. On short notice, he was able to arrange an invitation for Kajihara to attend the Tensho-setsu reception at the Embassy of Japan on April 30.

We continue to be amazed at the energy and storehouse of information Masaoka used to prepare his massive testimony.

Two Who Helped

The LEC work related to the hearing was made less burdensome by two young Sansei who responded to my S.O.S.

We were informed prior to the hearing that the subcommittee wanted the number of survivors and a projection of their age groups for a phase-in of the payments. The bill says that payments could start with the oldest survivors.

Richard Tani of Chicago, a fellow of the Society of Actuaries, was most generous with his time and knowledge in producing an estimate, in five-year groups, of the WRA center population that is still alive today. The figure is just under 60,000 with a death rate of 1,200 in 1987 and increasing for a few years due to the bulge of people who are presently between 59 and 68. These people, who were 15 to 24 at the time of relocation, made up the largest group in the Nikkei population.

After the hearing, I realized that LEC should issue a supplemental statement in response to Department of Justice representative Richard Willard's opposition to H.R. 442. I had the good fortune to discover that John Nakahata was working with the U.S. District Court in Washington, D.C. after graduation from Harvard Law School. I had read his research paper on cases related to damages for false arrest and loss of freedom, so I knew this young Sansei lawyer had knowledge of issues related to redress and could write the response for LEC within a short time.

Nakahata prepared a strong response, which we sent to the subcommittee office in time to get our statement included as part of the hearing documentation.

We are most grateful to all the talented individuals who come to our aid when we call for help. Without this kind of support, the work would not get done.

Speaking Engagement

On the evening of April 29, Rep. Dan Rostenkowski (D-Ill.),

chair of the House Ways and Means Committee, sponsored a "Matsui for Congress" fund-raiser. Mike and Etsu Masaoka, Harry Kajihara, Tak Moriuchi and Hiro Uyehara attended this event.

I had a previous commitment to speak at Anne Arundel Community College's lecture forum on the Japanese American experience with Tosh Hoshide from the Washington, D.C. Chapter.

This event gave us an opportunity to educate the section of Maryland between Bowie and Annapolis. It has freshman Congressman Tom McMillen (D), who needs to be lobbied, and our speaking engagement produced commitments to write him letters.

The engagement was arranged through Dr. Bob Omata's support of the redress program. Prior to the forum, he and his wife Hiro treated a group which included their daughter Donna, her husband Lester Brooks (a professor at the college), the Hoshides and me to a delicious home-cooked dinner.

Tri-District Conference

During the May 2 luncheon of the PSWDC, CCDC, and NCWNP-DC conference in Los Angeles, I had the pleasure of accepting an envelope filled with 72 checks for a total contribution of \$2,574 from the San Diego Chapter. The presentation was made by chapter redress chair Marleen Kawahara, chapter president Vernon Yoshioka, and redress fund-raiser chair Mas Hironaka.

The redress workshop was well attended. We must confess that only through the support and interest of those who believe we can still get redress legislation through Congress can those of us who have responsibility for that maintain our personal commitment to the cause. These get-togethers affirm that we are working for redress together.

The workshop was organized by NCWNP governor Mollie Fujioka. Other participants were San Francisco Chapter president and LEC Board member Cressey Nakagawa, PSW governor Ken Inouye, and Fresno Chapter redress chair Ken Yokota.

Toy Kanegai, in her usual upbeat style, informed me that she will coordinate another fund-raiser, possibly around November. I'm sure she'll plan another

Continued on page 6

Local Reaction to Vincent Chin Verdict

The May 1 acquittal of Ronald Ebens on federal charges of civil rights violations in the 1982 baseball bat beating death of Vincent Chin has gotten mostly negative reactions from readers of the Detroit Free Press. Following are excerpts from letters to the editor that appeared in the newspaper's May 6 and May 18 editions.

■ "I can't believe the verdict in the Vincent Chin case. I am a 73-year-old white woman, and in my 73 years I have never heard of such an injustice. It doesn't matter if Chin's civil rights were violated, he was killed. If you steal and get caught you go to jail; how can this happen?" (Pearl Gerow, Detroit)

■ "... How can kids learn to respect the law and expect justice when they see such a prostitution of justice as the Chin case? Doesn't depriving him of his life count? What good are civil rights when you are dead?" (Helen Harris, Detroit)

■ "One fact has emerged in these last five years; Lily Chin [the victim's mother] will not be

satisfied with the judicial system until it hands her her own baseball bat." (Carol Lemelin, St. Clair Shores)

■ "I don't see how anyone, for any reason, can just walk up to an unarmed man, and beat him to death with a baseball bat, and then get off. Does this mean that I can take a bat and beat Ronald Ebens to death and not go to jail? I promise to be sorry afterward." (Jeanne James, Clifford)

■ "... The first injustice was done to Chin when he was killed. The second injustice was done to him when his killer was only charged with manslaughter. The third injustice was done when Ronald Ebens' federal conviction was overturned. The fourth injustice was finding Ebens not guilty of violating Chin's civil rights and therefore making a mockery out of the American judicial system..." (Janet Rodriguez, Lincoln Park)

■ "... Although this was a racial issue at first glance, the real issue involved the value that we as humans place on life. To return

Ebens to society by allowing him to make monetary restitution, no matter how high the cost, cheapens life to the extent of a materialistic object... For any human to take the life of another intentionally is equivalent to stealing from the Lord himself—a crime for which one should be locked up and the key thrown away." (Jasmine Brown, Detroit)

■ "So a jury has decided that since there was no name-calling, Vincent Chin's civil rights were not violated. But it was agreed that he was beaten to death by Ronald Ebens wielding a baseball bat. As far as violating civil rights is concerned, didn't the man have a right to live? It seems to me that killing him would count as violating his civil rights." (M. Hill, Petoskey)

■ "... Whatever technicalities were involved, a person took the life of another merely because of his skin color and racial descent. The act was perpetrated by a person of sound mind. Vincent Chin's life cannot be re-

Continued on page 6

Community Calendar

June 6 — 20

CHULA VISTA

June 14 1 p.m. Art and craft works by former camp internees will be displayed at Kiku Gardens, 1260 3rd Ave. Donation is \$5. Proceeds will benefit the movement for redress/repatriations.

LOS ANGELES

June 9 10:30 a.m. Groundbreaking ceremony for the construction of new residential units will take place at the Japanese Retirement Home, 325 S. Boyle Ave.

June 11 'Ikko Tanaka L.A. — Graphic Designs of Japan,' a retrospective of one of Japan's foremost graphic artists, opens at the George Doizaki Gallery of the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, 244 S. San Pedro St. Exhibit will run through July 26. Gallery hours are Tuesdays through Sundays from noon to 5 p.m.

June 20 11:30 a.m. Asian Human Care Center, 5211 W. Olympic Blvd., will co-sponsor a rummage sale in its parking lot. Also sponsoring the sale will be the Handicapped Boy Scouts. Info: (213) 933-8537.

DENVER

June 13 Japanese American community of the greater Denver area will honor approximately 75 graduating high school seniors at its annual graduation dinner-dance at the Sheraton Tech Center. This year's program is being dedicated to the memory of Min Yasui, who was instrumental in beginning the scholarship program through the JACL Mile-Hi Chapter. Info: (303) 237-3041.

MONTEREY PARK

June 6 Noon to 7 p.m. Sage United Methodist Church, 333 S. Garfield Ave., will host its annual rummage sale. Event will feature foods, entertainment, cultural exhibits, and a "country store" with homemade items for sale. Info: (818) 288-5369.

SAN FRANCISCO

June 7 2 p.m. June meeting of the Nisei Widowed Group, 558 16th Ave., will take place at the home of Kazuyo McCleer in Oakland. Address and further information may be obtained by calling Elsie Chung, (415) 221-0268.

SEATTLE

June 14 1 p.m. Dedication ceremonies for the new Keiro Nursing Home, 16th and Yesler, will take place. Special guest will be Gov. Booth Gardner.

University of Nebraska Professor Gets Award

OMAHA — Dr. Peter Suzuki, professor of public administration at University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO), received special recognition at UNO's annual Honors Convocation on April 12.

He received the UNO Excellence in Teaching Award, which is partially funded by the Amoco Foundation.

A native of Seattle, Suzuki was interned with his family in 1942. He left camp in 1944 and went to Michigan, where he worked as a dishwasher at a hospital.

"My parents were most influential in stressing education to get ahead," he said. "The high school in the relocation camp was not very good and I had an opportunity to attend school and work in Michigan."

He completed high school in New England and earned bachelor's and master's degrees in anthropology from Columbia University. Following subsequent study at Johns Hopkins and Yale, he earned a Master of Philosophy degree and a doctorate in anthro-

pology from Leiden University in the Netherlands.

Suzuki came to UNO in 1973, after teaching in Turkey, Crete, and West Germany. He has established an international reputation as an expert in urban planning.

He has pioneered research about anthropology projects undertaken in the WW2 camps and in 1981 testified before the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians.

His future plans include research on housing in Belgium.

Tennis Tourney

CLOVIS, Calif. — The Central California District Council JACL Tennis Tournament will be held June 20 at Clovis High School to generate funds for the Nikkei Service Center. The goal is to raise about \$4,000. Sponsorship goals for each chapter are Fresno, 24; Clovis, 23; Sanger, Reedley, Delano, Fowler, Tulare, Parlier, and Selma, 12 each. Entry fees: \$15 singles, \$25 doubles. Info: Nancy and Randy Sasaki, (209) 436-1096.

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Five Memorial Scholarships Presented by Seattle Chapter

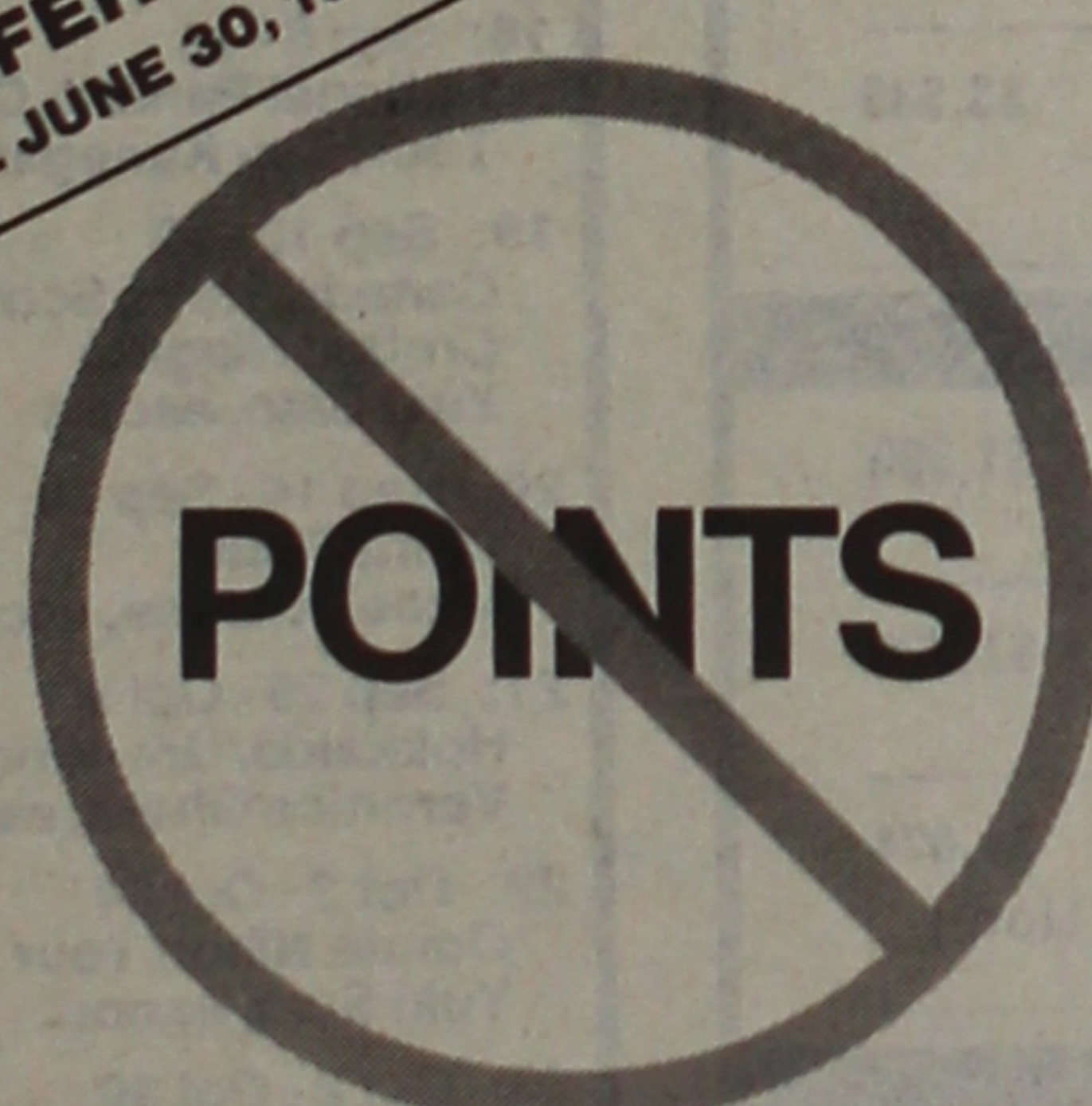
SEATTLE — Four \$500 scholarships were awarded during Seattle JACL's annual scholarship awards/potluck dinner May 20 at Kawabe House.

Winners of the Minoru Tamesa Memorial Scholarships, presented by 100-year-old Uhachi Tamesa, were Jim Kawamoto, Vivian

Umino and Kerry Uyeda. Winner of the Rev. Emery Andrews Memorial Scholarship was Margaret Inouye.

A special scholarship from the Min Masuda Memorial Fund went to Yasuko Iwai, a graduate student in anthropology from Japan.


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