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Friday, October 9, 1987

JACL Says Redress Now, Bork Later

By Harry Honda

WASHINGTON — At its Oct. 3 meeting at the Hampshire Hotel, the National JACL Board agonized over whether to take a position opposing the confirmation of Judge Robert Bork to the Supreme Court. In the end, the board voted 9-5 to defer consideration of the question.

Grant Ujifusa, legislative strategy chair for JACL-LEC, said, "The issue here is not a matter of expediency vs. principle, but one of principle vs. principle: The principle of protecting and advancing the ideals embodied in redress legislation vs. coming out against a person whose views many in our organization find objectionable. The two principles are in conflict, just as freedom of the press is not always consistent with the right of privacy."

Ujifusa went on to say, "We must set our priorities that govern the direction we take after our success in the House and act from common sense not to burden redress legislation with additional risk when it reaches the president's desk."

Issue: Bipartisan vs. Partisan

Ujifusa also said, "Whatever we do, the president still could easily veto the bill."

"Redress," he noted, "is regarded as a bipartisan issue while the Bork confirmation, for better or worse, has become intensely partisan. We should try to stay cool. Our one chance for success in 45 years deserves all the support that we can give to it."

Finally, Ujifusa said, "Taking a position against Bork is as easy as climbing onto a bandwagon but getting redress legislation into law is very, very hard."

Nikkei Crowd Jams Smithsonian Exhibit



A Happy Day—Rep. Bob Matsui (D-Calif.), Sen. Spark Matsunaga (D-Hawaii), former Supreme Court Justice Arthur Goldberg and Sen. Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii) celebrate the Oct. 1 opening of the Smithsonian exhibit "A More Perfect Union: Japanese Americans and the U.S. Constitution."

Board Members Comment

Judge Bill Marutani, national JACL planning vice president, saw the issue as a "no win" situation. He felt the board should not vote out of fear and the National Board should not only take a position against Bork but come out fighting for redress.

Tom Kometani, Eastern District governor, said, "All matters of principle cannot be equal at all times. Redress must take priority because it embodies the psyche for our survival as a community."

Dr. Yosh Nakashima, national JACL operations vice president, spoke in favor of deferring action on practical, political grounds but later voted against the motion to defer.

Alan Nishi, treasurer, reminded the board that the National Coalition for Redress/Reparations had come out against Bork and wondered what deferring action might mean for JACL's public perception.

Dilemma of '50s

Cherry Kinoshita, national JACL public affairs vice president, recalled

led National JACL had faced a similar dilemma in the 1950s when JACL was the only major civil rights organization which backed the 1952 Walter-McCarran Act because of its naturalization privileges for Issei. Other civil rights groups strongly opposed this bill because they felt the legislation contained dangers to civil liberties.

Mollie Fujioka, NC-WNP District governor, said whatever action the board took would not bar individuals to say or do what they wanted as individuals. Grayce Uyehara, JACL-LEC executive director, concurred with Fujioka, saying, "Taking a position as JACL is not the only option. In fact, by having the organization taking a position, individuals often may not act as a citizen which requires more time and money. My experience in Washington shows that the individual letters and telephone calls make more of an impact."

Uyehara added, "I might be too close to the work of redress, but the many letters I receive from the older

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By Harry K. Honda

WASHINGTON — About 5,000 Japanese Americans from across the nation, the largest turnout of Nikkei ever in the nation's Capitol, met on a blustery Oct. 1 morning at the west steps of the Capitol to mark the opening of the Smithsonian Institution's exhibit commemorating the bicentennial of the Constitution.

Located in the National Museum of American History at 14th Street and Constitution Avenue N.W., the exhibit, titled "A More Perfect Union: Japanese Americans and the U.S. Constitution," is a case study in the implementation of the Constitution by the government.

The concept is best summed up in the words of Chief Justice Charles Evans Hughes (1862-1948), who once stated, "You may think that the Constitution is your security—it is nothing but a piece of paper... It is nothing at all, unless you have sound and uncorrupted public opinion to give life to your Constitution."

As a document that encourages change and growth through a process of amendment and judicial interpretation, which reflects evolving social, cultural and political attitudes, the Constitution's most important feature is its possibility for correction. The exhibition has been cited as one instance in which a correction is being made.

During the Second World War, nearly 120,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry and legal resident aliens were uprooted from their communities and confined to camps constructed by the U.S. government, spending the war years under armed guard without the benefit of due process of law.

The exhibit, which continues for an extended period, tells the story of that time when Japanese Americans were denied the protection accorded all American citizens under the Bill of Rights. Presumed guilty of disloyalty by reason of race and locked away for the war's duration, most had their lives disrupted and property forfeited. This happened, in spite of the fact that many Japanese Americans served in the U.S. military, with great distinction, in both the Pacific and European theaters of war.

The exhibition poses the question of how this happened and the possibility of it occurring again. It examines some of the fundamental principles of law involved in President Roosevelt's controversial decision, E.O. 9066, which resulted in the mass relocation program. The original three pages of this document, signed by Franklin D. Roosevelt, are on display.

"This is the story of a grave injustice done to a group of Americans who, by virtue of their ancestry, were denied basic civil rights guaranteed to all Americans," says curator Tom Crouch. "The irony of their plight is underscored by the participation of some 25,000 Japanese Americans in the U.S. armed forces during the war. Many of those men had enlisted from behind barbed wire."

"One of the points the exhibition makes clear is that despite having suffered great hardship and trauma

at the hands of their government, these people have worked within the system to remove the old barriers of racial prejudice," says Crouch.

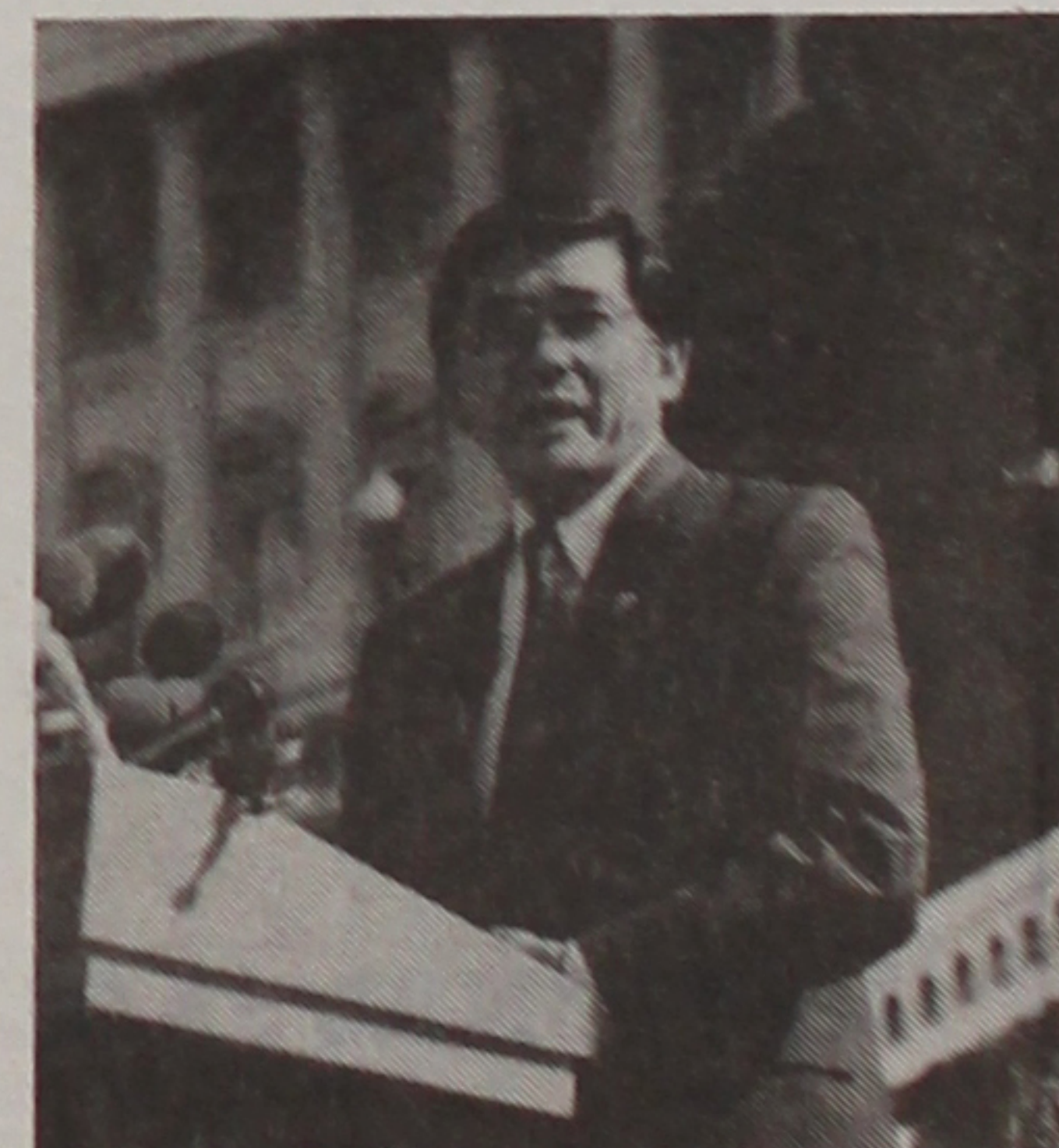
"Our concern is that all Americans understand the importance of extending the safeguards and protections of the Constitution to every citizen, regardless of race, color or creed."



Rep. Patricia Saiki

Organized into six sections, the exhibition includes more than 1,000 artifacts and photographs. In addition, five separate audio-visual presentations located throughout the exhibition provide oral-history accounts of life in the camps and of the use of weapons and other equipment by Japanese American war veterans, as well as of reflections on the constitutional process offered by individuals involved in the wartime relocation programs.

Underlining the spirit of the exhibition's opening ceremony, former Supreme Court Justice Arthur Goldberg, guest speaker of the event, declared the passage of redress bill H.R. 442 long overdue and inadequate still to redress what befell Japanese Americans during the war. The bill, recently passed by the House of Representatives by a vote of 243 to 141, would provide a formal apology on behalf of the nation and monetarily compensate each surviving internee.



Rep. Norman Mineta

According to Goldberg, the money awarded by the redress legislation, currently headed for the Senate Floor, is picayune to the trillions in the budget today. The distinguished champion of human and civil rights said it was inconceivable to him that "the President would not sign the bill" because justice delayed is justice denied. Noting that it was a maxim known to all who study the law, Goldberg said, "Let us not fail

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APALC Honors Yasui at Dinner

By George Johnston

LOS ANGELES — The late Minoru Yasui was honored along with David E. Anderson and Lilly Lee at the Asian Pacific American Legal Center's (APALC) second annual awards dinner, Oct. 1, at the Biltmore Hotel. Yasui's posthumously presented Legal Impact Award was accepted by his widow, True Yasui and one of their daughters, Holly Yasui.

Yasui, who died last November, was well-known for his contributions and commitment to civil and constitutional rights for all Americans. In years past, the JACL presented the Denver-based attorney the Japanese American of the Biennium and JACler of the Biennium awards. Before his death, he served as executive director of the JACL Legislative Education Committee.

Anderson, Lee Cited

David E. Anderson, president and



Pacific Citizen Photo by George Johnston

A True Honor—True Yasui and daughter Holly were in Los Angeles Oct. 1 to accept the Asian Pacific American Legal Center's Legal Impact Award, presented posthumously to Min Yasui. (l-r), APALC Executive Director Stewart Kwok, True Yasui, Holly Yasui, Lilly Lee and David E. Anderson.

chief executive officer of General Telephone of California, was presented the Corporate Award and Lilly Lee, chairman of Lilly Enterprises, Inc. and Lilly Property Management Company, was presented with the Public Service Award.

The dinner serves as a major fun-

draiser for the APALC, "the only organization in Southern California which targets the growing Asian Pacific American communities to provide legal education, individual case representation and assistance to communities or groups on broad issues."

Bill to Fund Educational Materials on Internment Signed

SACRAMENTO — The bill to develop audio visual materials on the Armenian Genocide and the internment of Japanese Americans and legal resident aliens during WW2 was signed by Gov. Deukmejian on Sept 27.

Assembly bill 1375 appropriates \$100,000 from Educational Consolidation and Improvement Act funds to develop two films or video tapes. Each film or video tape would receive \$50,000 for its development and requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to contract out for its production. Final approval of the films must come from the Curriculum Development and Supplemental Materials Commission.

The bill was introduced by Speaker pro Tempore Mike Roos (D-Los Angeles) in response to a 1985

mandate by the State Legislature. The mandate requires the Department of Education to develop a model curriculum for public schools on human rights violations and genocide. The mandate also determined that films and video tapes are the most effective educational tools available to teachers to convey the horrors of internment and genocide.

"It is essential for our children to learn about the history of human rights violations and genocide," said Roos. "Education is one of the best ways to prevent a reoccurrence of such human suffering and horror."

The two events were singled out by the bill because it has been stated that there are few educational films or video tapes available

on the Armenian genocide. In addition, according to Roos, educational films on the internment tend to be old and outdated. New films dealing with the subject have a specific focus and there are no new comprehensive films or video tapes. Because of this, many public schools no longer teach students about either event.

"The two films will begin to fill the current void of audio visual materials available on these two important historical events," said Roos. "To ignore either of these events would be, in effect, to rewrite history."

Said Ron Wakabayashi, JACL national director who testified before the Assembly Education Committee, "Assemblyman Roos' bill begins to remedy the gap in education... it will contribute to the growing awareness of the internment history. We are grateful to [him] for sharing our concern that the incarceration never be forgotten."

Groups supporting the measure included the Armenian Assembly of America, Armenian Film Foundation, Armenian National Committee, County of Los Angeles, Chief Administrative Office, Japanese American Citizens League and Japanese American Curriculum Project.

Opposing the bill were the Assembly of Turkish American Associations and numerous California residents of Turkish descent.

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OCA Joins the Opposition to Bork

WASHINGTON — The Organization of Chinese Americans, Inc. (OCA) officially announced on Sept. 2 its opposition to the nomination of Judge Robert Bork for Associate Justice to the Supreme Court.

With this decision, the OCA joins a number of prominent national civil rights organizations opposing President Reagan's choice to replace Justice Lewis Powell Jr. on the highest court in the land. "Based on our review of Bork's positions on civil rights issues, we ask that all Asian American groups and individuals join OCA in opposing the nomination," said James C. Tso, OCA national president.

Tso noted that Bork initially op-

posed passage of provisions of the 1964 Civil Rights Act banning discrimination in public facilities, supported legislation curtailing school desegregation remedies and has opposed affirmative action remedies for employment discrimination. "The American people in general, and minorities and Asian Americans in particular, must have a justice who will uphold the civil rights and liberties guaranteed by the Constitution and articulated in landmark Supreme Court decisions over the past thirty years," Tso continued.

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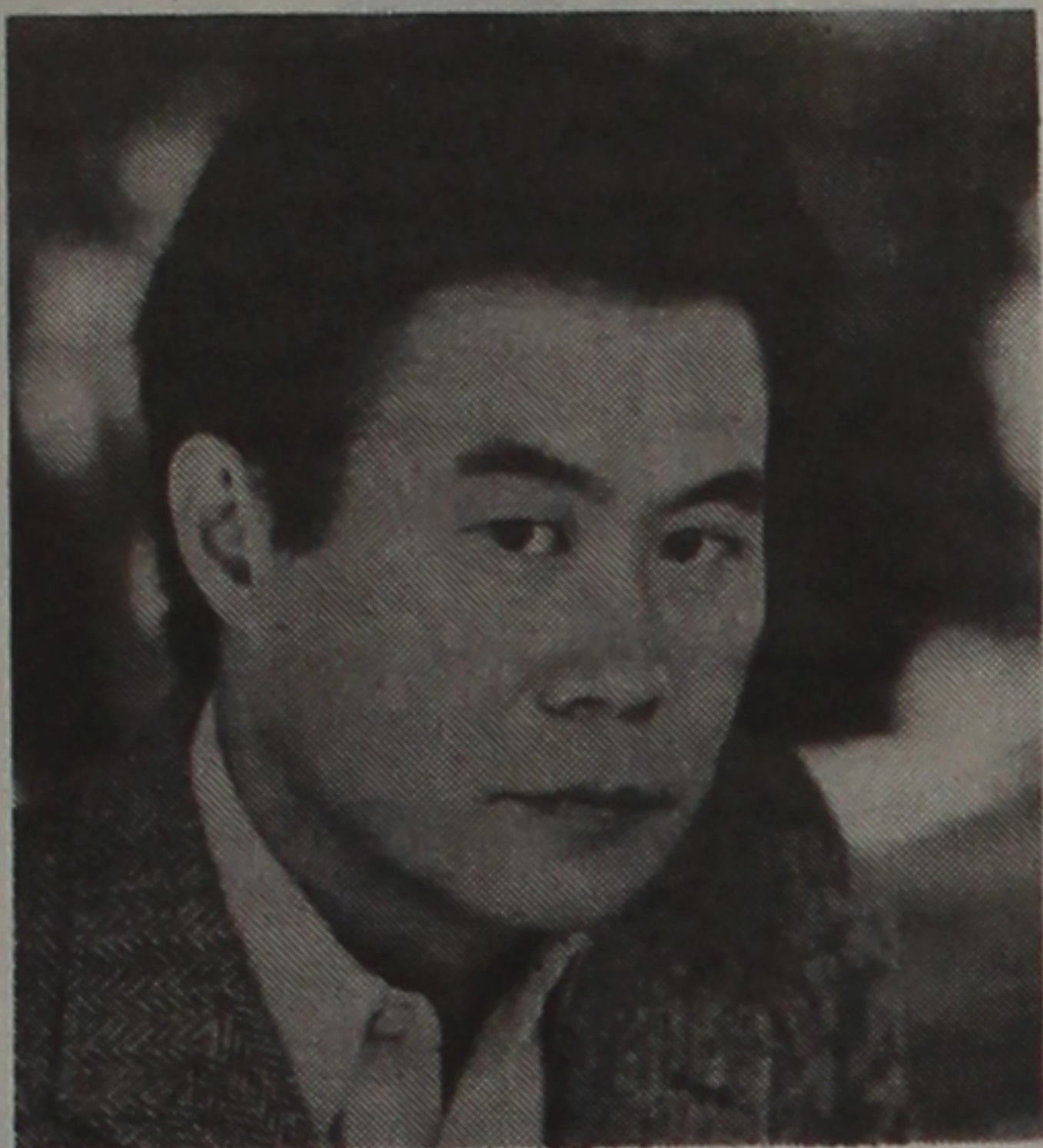
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Actor Plays Dad in Drama Shown at Exhibit



Sab Shimono

WASHINGTON — Sab Shimono plays the only adult role in "The Barracks," a factual drama currently being shown at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History. Shimono portrays a father telling his daughter about life in the internment camps where Americans of Japanese ancestry were confined during WW2. "The Barracks" is one of four filmed segments of an installation entitled "A More Perfect Union: Japanese Americans and the U.S. Constitution," which embodies live actors. The project, shown daily via video disks, is part of a salute in the official U.S. celebration of the bicentennial of the Constitution. Shimono's acting career spans 23 years and has included performances in feature films and television and on Broadway.

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Yasui Coram Nobis Update

By George Johnston

LOS ANGELES — Minoru Yasui, recipient of the 1987 Legal Impact Award from the Asian Pacific American Legal Center, defied a WW2 curfew order that discriminated on the basis of race. Yasui unanimously lost his individual case in the Supreme Court on the June 21, 1943. In the 1980s, along with Fred Korematsu and Gordon Hirabayashi who lost their cases in the Supreme Court, Yasui reopened his case because of newly discovered documents which indicated the government suppressed and withheld evidence. Using a legal procedure known *writ of error coram nobis*, a common law petition whereby a person convicted of a crime asks for reconsideration of his case when there is evidence of fundamental error or manifest injustice in the original litigation, Korematsu, Hirabayashi and Yasui, with the help of a legal team that included Peter Irons and Peggy Nagae Lum, began a long legal pro-

cess of getting their cases reconsidered.

Appeal Dismissed

Since then, Korematsu and Hirabayashi have gone on to have their individual *coram nobis* petitions granted. Yasui's petition was denied in January of 1984 and it was on appeal in the Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals when he died. Fourteen days after his death, the U.S. government counsel moved to dismiss Yasui's petition, citing his death and in March 1987, the court decided to dismiss his appeal.

Yasui's family and legal team are determined to continue the case and according to Holly Yasui, the family filed a petition *writ certiorari* to the U.S. Supreme Court in June of 1987, to appeal the decision by the Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to dismiss the case entirely. Since then, the government filed a response which argues that because Yasui died, the case is moot and should be dismissed.

Peggy Nagae Lum, Yasui's attor-

ney, referring to their reply to the government's response, said that Yasui's case is not a simple criminal case but "is extraordinary in that the circumstances in his case present among the most profound and fundamental constitutional questions. The questions charge prosecutorial misconduct and fraud upon the courts, which is supported by abundant evidence from the government's own records, presenting equally profound and disturbing questions regarding the integrity of our judicial system."

Holly Yasui, referring to Hirabayashi's *coram nobis* petition which overturned his wartime convictions Sept. 25, 1987, by different judges of same court which dismissed her father's case, said, "It was a

very strong opinion, entirely in favor of Hirabayashi... and the thing that is of great interest to us is that what the government was appealing was the fact that back in the district court, the judge had ruled that curfew was of such insignificant impact compared to the exclusion that they did go ahead and vacate the exclusion conviction but not the curfew.

"Of course, my dad's case was involved with curfew. So, the circuit court's ruling that curfew was in fact part and parcel of the relocation process is a good legal precedent that we will be able to use in our reply to the government's response."

"Our argument is that this case represents much more than a single individual act," continued Holly

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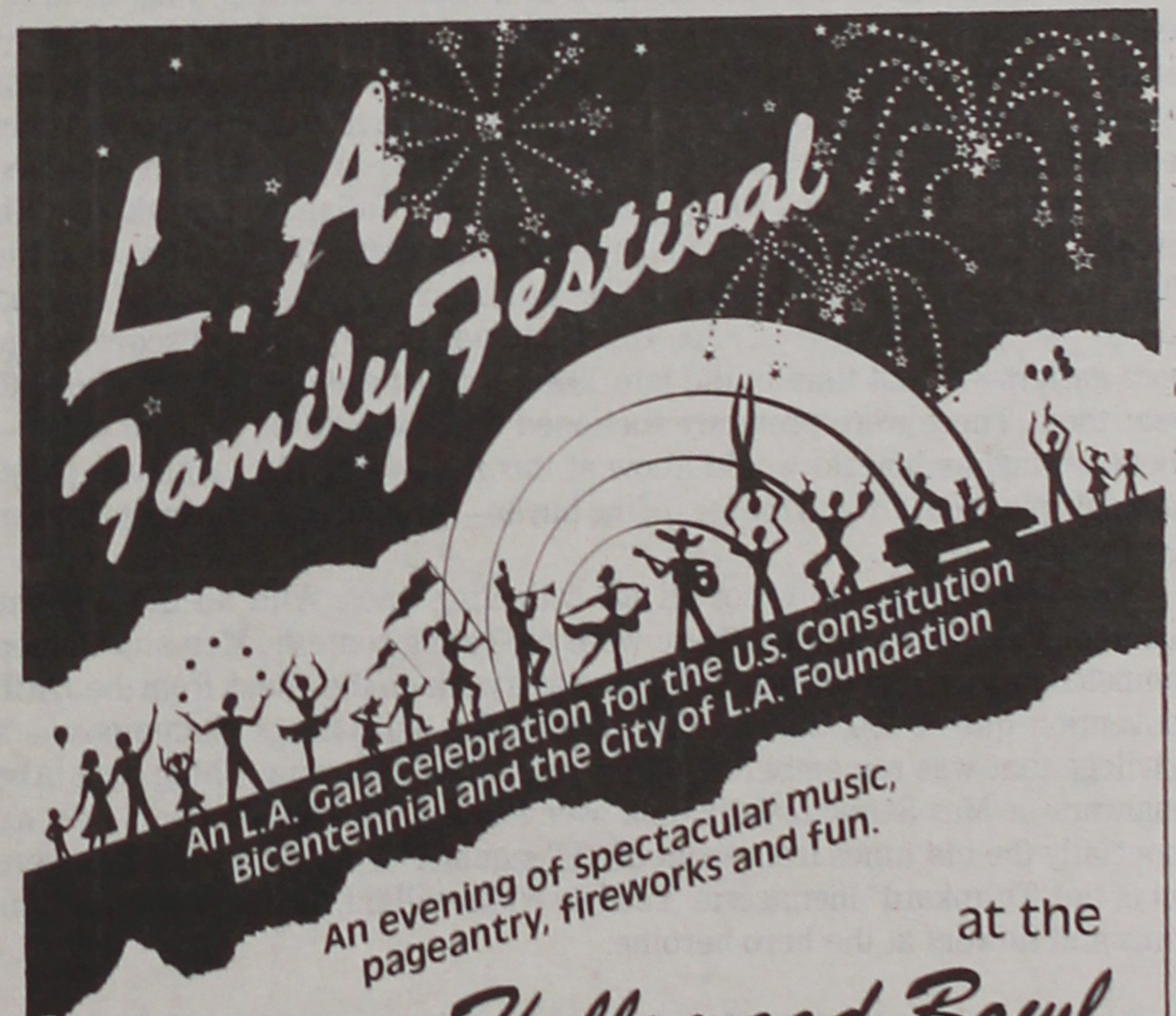
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EDITORIAL OF THE PACIFIC CITIZEN:

1000 Club: JACL's Funny Bone

WHEN the big issue in JACL was "money" to keep National Headquarters perking in the 1940s, the 1000 Club was initiated in 1947 during an Intermountain District Council convention at Idaho Falls around the Thanksgiving Day weekend. Recognizing that JACL could not continue to finance its program on membership dues (it was then about \$1.50 a year) and donations year after year, the National Board members present with the IDC delegates spontaneously launched the "Thousand Club" to have 1,000 JACLers pledge \$25 a year above regular dues to support National. One mistakenly heard it was \$25 a month. It was not \$1,000 a year either as many had wondered upon hearing the name, though some now wish it were — since the organization is back in the same hole, you might say.

While the national JACL leadership then set the pace for two generations of JACLers to join the 1000 Club, hilarity played a big role in corralling contributors during the early years. The 1000 Club whing-ding at the conventions was the place to let your hair down, booze a bit and contribute to the 1000 Club while wiping tears from your eyes from laughing so hard. The late George Inagaki (1914-1978), who was the first to put his \$25 on the line and became its first chairman, would render a serious message first on the purpose of the 1000 Club and add that all money collected in fines that night would be put into the Headquarters treasury. In those days, raising \$200 in fines at a dinner attended by 100 was about standard.

At the whing dings, Inagaki was a master in exacting the fines, which were collected under hilarious conditions and always in an almost painless manner. But "painless" is a relative sensation as some stand pain better than others.

You had to be a 1000 Club member to catch the fun, such as: Sam Ishikawa and Mack Hamaguchi were playing with toy chicks feeding off empty plates at dinner, creating a racket. It annoyed Inagaki; so Sam and Mack were fined for "disturbing the peace." The fellows sitting next to the ladies (not their wives) were fined. Dr. Yosh Nakaji was fined \$10 for his hole-in-one while warming up for the National JACL golf tournament that weekend. Inagaki commented Yosh was getting off cheap, considering...

Men with long ties paid a fine to avoid it being snipped off to look like a bow tie, which was the proper uniform at a 1000 Club whing ding. In latter years, long ties were automatically prohibited and snipped short to bow tie length. You might detect the "bow tie" in the 1000 Club Knight logo, reflecting this early tradition, as well as the "garter"—in fact, the 1000 Club was sometimes referred to as the Order of the Tie and Garter. These two items were attached to the Knight after serious consideration. George "Callahan" Inagaki had his favorite bow tie auctioned (over his protest) at the first 1000 Club dinner at the 1948 Salt Lake national convention. The bidding was heated. Finally, Inagaki had to pay \$10 to keep it.... Joe Grant Masaoka's roommate discovered he wore garters—at that time in the late 1940s, it was becoming almost a joke to wear them. These were promptly auctioned off. The bidding stopped at \$10—about as high as Inagaki would allow at this first whing ding. And Joe Grant smilingly put them around the legs of the buyer—the high pressure car salesman Henry Ohye.

The whing dings were not all for collecting fines. With all the bedlam, business was at a minimum. There were pie-eating contests. Men and women competed together for the prizes. There was a peck-on-the-cheek from the JACL convention queen, too, besides the trophies for tournament champions — a privilege that was remembered with a fine at the following whing ding. Abe Hagiwara or Mas Satow usually took over leading the 1000 Clubbers in song, especially the old tunes from scout or "Y" summer camp days. The skits were out of the "Drunkard" menagerie. You hissed the villain, threw popcorn at him, coins and flowers at the hero-heroine.

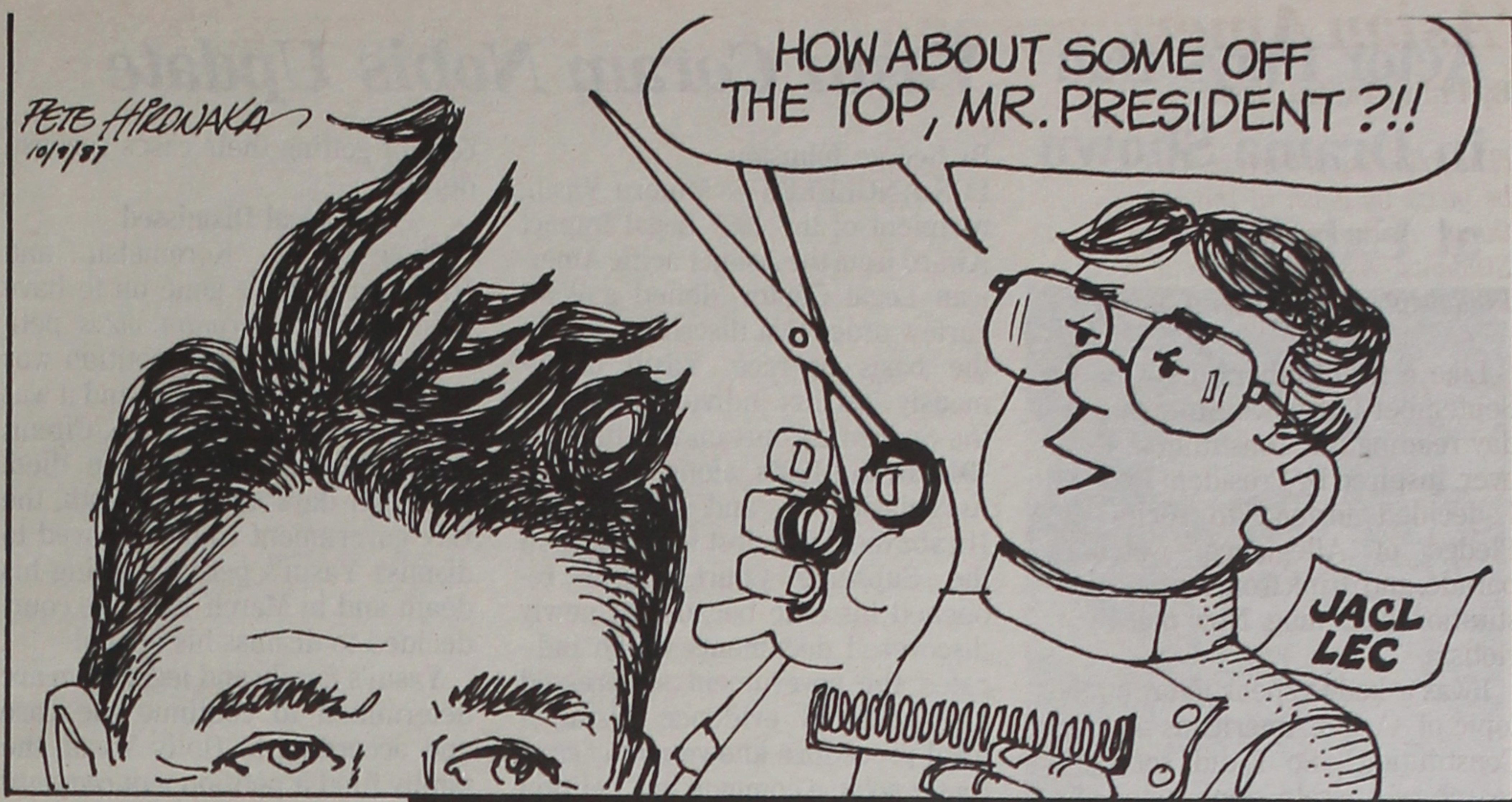
In the first year, the 1000 Club decided it would not participate in the JACL program in any manner or form except in fellowship and fun raising cash and money for the organization. The feeling was that 1000ers have put up the money to finance Headquarters. Now, let the 1000ers devote themselves to letting their hair down and have fun. It was also decided that because of the \$25 contribution, members would be excused from paying the local chapter dues (about 50 cents or \$1 a year then). Today, the 1000 Club contributions range from \$55 a year up to one-time life membership of \$500 (which offer ends by the 1988 national convention in Seattle.)

To maintain the camaraderie of the 1000 Club, Inagaki's monthly columns did that and they were eagerly anticipated. To boost membership, each member's contribution was acknowledged in the JACL Reporter and nowadays in the Pacific Citizen. For the first decade or so, "Callahan" Inagaki's sprightly-penned 1000 Club Corner was filled with ideas, names and much small talk.

Forty years later, over the Thanksgiving holidays at the Intermountain JACL District Council convention at Cactus Pete's in Jackpot, Nev., the 1000 Club will mark its 40th anniversary at a gala dinner on Saturday, Nov. 21. Whether it can revive the funny-bone antics remains to be seen. But old-timers who do remember these early parties will be making an effort to see if the same old tricks still work—fining the gang to raise a kitty for National.

Little Tokyo Rattles & Rolls

The earthquakes of Oct. 1 and 5 rattled and rolled Little Tokyo more seriously than meets the eye. The long brick building housing the Pacific Citizen and other tenants is under a "Notice to Vacate" with a citation under Ordinance 88 for earthquake compliance. If we choose to remain it's with the understanding that we do so at our own risk, though no notice has been posted in front of 941 E. 3rd St. Visitors stopping by should be aware and take notice here.



Kansha No Hi: Recognizing the Unsung Heroes

Three years ago, Tom Masamori, then president of Denver's JACL chapter, looking for a way to serve the Japanese American community, came up with an idea for honoring unsung volunteers. Various community organizations saw merit in the proposal. They called the occasion *Kansha no Hi*, meaning Day of Appreciation, designed a plaque to be given each of the honorees, organized a program and an informal dinner at which to recognize them.

The organizing committee explains the meaning of *Kansha no Hi* in this way: "Many of our more noted citizens have already been recognized and honored by their community or organizations but there are individuals who day in and day out give their untiring efforts without thought or regard for reward or remuneration. It is with this in mind that we recognize those unsung heroes."

The third *Kansha no Hi* was celebrated a few weeks ago with virtually a capacity crowd in the Buddhist Temple auditorium. Methodist pastor Joseph Sakakibara gave the invocation, Sansei Buddhist priest Kanya Okamoto gave the benedic-

FROM THE FRYING PAN

Bill Hosokawa



tion, and a Nisei woman, Terry Sato, chaired the committee that put the whole thing together. Eleven community organizations were represented.

There is insufficient space to cite the achievements of each of the honorees, but here is a very brief sampling:

Roy Inouye, Buddhist leader and before his retirement from farming, an agricultural stalwart in Colorado's San Luis Valley. Dr. Takashi Mayeda, a dedicated worker in many good causes. Mrs. Misayo Mizoue, born in Japan and best known for taking charge of countless church dinners. Keishi Murata, a Colorado resident for 80 years who tutored generations in baseball, Buddhism and the Japanese language. Frank Nakagawa, retired

postal employee, Scout and veterans leader, Commerce City councilman for 20 years.

Mrs. Mary Nakamura, for 25 years a member of her church board. Mrs. Masano Nakatsuka, Japanese music and flower arrangement teacher. John Noguchi, veterans leader. Dick Tanino, perennial treasurer of various organizations. Ruth Yamauchi, church and Sister Cities committee worker. Shigeo Yanaru, Japan-born Buddhist lay leader.

The word "leader" appears in many of the identification although it is difficult not to use it in reference to all the individuals. Each in his or her own way exhibited leadership, but it is for long, unrewarded service that they were honored.

A program like this probably wouldn't work in communities like Los Angeles, San Francisco or San Jose. But here in Denver it fills a need and develops a sense of unity among people and organizations that most of the time are busy going their separate ways. Separatism is natural and understandable, but once in a while it does a community good to get together for something that concerns all its members.

Los Angeles Quake is Awesome!

IRO IRO

George Johnston



"Tell me who in the house Knows about the quake?" (Prince, "Housequake")

Probably about the only people who by now haven't heard about the earthquakes that rocked the Los Angeles area last week are anti-social hermits or Peace Corps workers in remote areas of the Philippines. Everyone who felt it has a story to tell and here's mine.

First of all, although I'm new to L.A., this quake wasn't the first one I've ever been in. There was one a few years ago back in Colorado that awoke me from sleeping. Also, there was one that lasted about two minutes in Tokyo that I experienced with my parents. It wasn't a strong quake, but it was steady; on the ninth floor of a building, you don't know whether to bolt for the stairs or just wait it out. Neither of these were as strong as last Thursday's quake.

I woke up at 7:40 a.m. on October 1 to get a shower because a maintenance crew was going to turn off the

water at my place at 8:30 a.m. I went downstairs, still partially asleep, took a look at the newspaper headlines... then boom, like a straight punch to the solar plexus, the 6.1 quake hit California at 7:42 a.m.

Without thinking about it, my strategy was to get out of the shaking building and go to the empty field across the street. Unfortunately, that strategy did not include unlocking the door behind me. Fully awake now, the shaking had stopped, and there I was, in my Asahi beer/rising sun gym shorts, a t-shirt and zori, locked out. I greeted my neighbors who looked as silly as I did. Eventually, I got back in through a window. A quick survey showed no visible damage to the interior.

Here at the P.C., it was a slightly different story. Bricks fell out of the building's exterior, two windows were broken out and big cracks are now visible on the walls of the stairwell. Although a big mess was made when Harry Honda's books were scattered all over his area, I could barely tell a quake hit in my area. It always looks like a quake hit there. Luckily, no one was in the office at the time.

Early Sunday morning, about 4 o'clock, California got 5.5 aftershock. Since then, it has been pretty quiet. Hopefully, we won't get any quakes for a while since we've been informed that that 941 E. Third Street is now structurally unsafe and that we are here at our own risk. Kind of like life in general.

OCA

Continued from page 2

"A careful examination of Judge Bork's track record demonstrates that he would not be that justice."

"The current vacancy on the Supreme Court is especially critical given Justice Powell's moderate and centrist positions. Judge Bork would merely solidify the conservative faction of the court, and his elevation would be an affront to civil rights and individual liberties," Tso said.

He added that the president has any number of distinguished jurists and lawyers whom he could nominate in Bork's stead, including three Asian Americans whose names were submitted to the White House: Sen. Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii), Justice Thomas Tang of the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and Justice Harry Low of the California State Court of Appeals.

William L. Fang, OCA national vice president for public affairs, said that OCA's position is not based on Bork's competence as a lawyer and a judge. "The Senate's approval or rejection of the president's nominee for the Supreme Court is an inherently political process," Fang said. "OCA found Bork's ideology and philosophy, and his application of the Constitution and the law to particular cases sufficient grounds to oppose the nomination."

Fang pointed out that the Senate has rejected almost 20 percent of all presidential Supreme Court nominees. Of the 27 rejections or withdrawals under fire, more than one-third were for ideological reasons.

'Asian Americans and the Death of the Constitution'

By Philip Tajitsu Nash

(The following is the text of a speech to be given by Nash at the seventh national Asian/Pacific American Law Students Association conference in Philadelphia on October 9, 1987)

Like a lot of others, I got up on September 17th vowing to spend the day reading the Constitution. However, inspired by President Reagan, I decided instead to recite the Pledge of Allegiance, watch a parade, and drink from my new Constitution beer mug. Now *that's* patriotism.

I was asked to speak today on the topic of "Asian Americans and the Constitution." So I did some research and wrote some notes and sat down to write. As I did, I realized that for me to stand here and extoll the Constitution and make you feel jolly while we all fill our bellies would be wrong. It would be a little bit like the boy who saw his house on fire and who decided to sit on the stoop and eat a lollipop. Or, more precisely, it would be like the Americans of 1776 who heard the shots heard round the world and who decided to do nothing.

The reason for my alarm, and the reason for my calling this speech "Asian Americans and the Death of the Constitution" is that the Reagan Administration is actively subverting the cornerstone of the very document we are celebrating today. That cornerstone is the delicate balance between majority rule through electoral democracy and individual liberty through a vigilant judiciary and an informed populace.

I will return to a national and global overview of how and why our Constitutional rights are dying, but first let me explore the important ways in which Asian Americans have helped to keep the Constitution alive these past two centuries.

As far as I can determine, there were no Asian Americans among the 55 European American males who huddled here in Philadelphia during the hot summer of 1787. Just to be sure, though, I'm checking to see if there was any Asian blood in two of the delegates: William Few of Georgia and Rufus King of Massachusetts.

Even if we were not in on the original writing, we Asian Americans played a *vital* role in the shaping of the Constitution. And, despite whatever Robert Bork or Ed Meese say, the framers deliberately left no

notes so that our implementation of their text over the years would give new concrete content to their fixed conceptual categories.

Earlier than most other groups, Asian Americans realized that the legal system was designed to protect the rights of minorities, dissenters and those with unpopular views from the tyranny of an uninformed or unsympathetic majority. Charles McClain, a legal historian in Berkeley, has identified more than two dozen Supreme Court and hundreds of lower court decisions relating to Asian Americans in the 19th century alone. And no constitutional history of the 20th century would be complete without the inclusion of *Korematsu*, *Takahashi*, and a number of other key Supreme Court decisions.

While time does not permit me to explore the details of each major Asian American case, a brief overview of the types of rights we have helped to vindicate and strengthen would be useful:

1. *Equal Protection* under the 14th Amendment meant little until Chinese American laundry workers, miners and others decided to flex their collective muscles and challenge discriminatory taxes and ordinances. *Yick Wo versus Hopkins*, decided in 1886, is still cited in every Supreme Court brief dealing with the rights of an identifiable group not to be discriminated against. But few realize that 200 laundry owners had to sign petitions, 150 had to be arrested, and countless others had to pool their money to pay for a legal challenge that lasted six long years.

2. *Immigration Law*, controlled by a clause in Section 8 of Article 1 of the Constitution, was defined by a long stream of Asian American litigants. Wong Kim Ark, Ekiu Nishimura, Chae Chan Ping, Chy Lung, and Fong Yue Ting are just a few of the patriotic Americans who tried, sometimes unsuccessfully, to vindicate the citizenship rights that we as a community are still helping to shape.

3. *Race-based Laws*, including the right to define who could and could not become a naturalized American citizen, who could marry whom, and who could apply for which jobs, were shaped by Asian Americans as well as Latinos, Afro-Americans and others. Ah Yup, Ozawa, Thind, Toyota, Saito and Charr are just a few of the names we should recognize as human beings who quested after the rights of citizenship but

who were denied them based on race. Even the scourge of anti-miscegenation, which reached to 31 of our states over the years, was defeated in 1967 with the help of Asian Americans.

Did you know that the *Loving versus Virginia* case, which overturned these laws that forbade intermarriage, was argued as a friend of the court by our own Bill Marutani of Philadelphia? Did you read the *Loving* case closely and realize that a previous challenge to the Virginia anti-miscegenation statute, *Naim versus Naim*, had come from a couple who were Chinese American and Euro-American?

4. *Criminal Law* would not be complete without the right to testify in court, no matter what your race. Yet Asian Americans had to fight for that right in *People versus Hall*, *People versus Washington*, and other cases.

5. *Land Law*, and especially the right to own land and do with it whatever one likes, was shaped by the Asian American challenges to the discriminatory Alien Land Laws passed by a number of Western states in the early part of this century. *Suwata versus Johnson*, *Oyama versus California*, and *Fuji versus State* are just three examples of our community's willingness to sit back and accept discrimination.

6. *Education Law* has been shaped for many decades by Asian Americans, with the *Gong Lum versus Rice* case in 1927 being just one prominent example. More recently, every bilingual/bicultural student in the nation has benefitted from the activism of concerned Asian American parents in the events surrounding the 1973 *Lau versus Nichols* decision.

7. Finally, while a case could be made for Asian American involvement in the shaping of voting rights, religious freedoms and other areas of constitutional history, one of the most well-known recent examples of Asian Americans struggling to shape the Constitution is the ongoing nationwide effort to redress the Japanese Americans who were interned by our own government during World War II. This effort, which redress leader William Hohri has called "repairing the Constitution," involves legal and legislative strategies to vindicate the fundamental Constitutional rights of all Americans. The struggle was started by wartime patriots like Fred Korematsu, Minoru Yasui, Mitsuye Endo and Gordon Hirabayashi, all of

whom were in their twenties when they challenged the unjust and unjustified internment. It was continued by the Heart Mountain draft resisters, who refused to fight for rights denied themselves and their families, as well as by the members of the decorated 442nd Regimental Combat Team and 100th Battalion. After the war, the struggle for redress took on many forms: legal challenges to the Internal Security Act of 1950 (with its ominous preventive detention aspects), community-based struggles to inform our neighbors, Congressional struggles to get a study commission, city-based struggles to pass Day of Remembrance proclamations, legal struggles with the *coram nobis* and class action lawsuits, and more Congressional struggles to pass bills implementing the findings of the Congressional commission. All told, thousands of hours and dollars have been spent and the struggle isn't over yet. But one thing is certain: we have vaccinated a new generation about the dangers of group-based preventive detention, and it will be that much more difficult to round up and detain any other minority group in the future. In this way, the Constitution has been both shaped and repaired at the same time.

By now it should be clear to all of us that Asian Americans are hardly the passive, quiet people that stereotypes make us out to be. We have played a major role in shaping the Constitution and will continue to do so.

But let's get back to the point I raised at the beginning of this talk. How is it that, after such a dynamic 20 years, the Constitution is dying now? Why is this happening? And how can we as Asian Americans prevent this process from reaching its horrifying possible conclusion?

On a global level, our generation is witnessing a historic shift in power from the Atlantic rim countries to the Pacific rim countries. For reasons beyond the scope of this presentation, people of European ancestry, less than 20 percent of the world's population, have disproportionately benefitted from the technological benefits of the past 400 years. A false world view, propagated by devices like the Mercator Projection map and the notion of Greenwich Standard time have made Euro-centric notions of beauty, scholarship, and values the "universal" norms.

People of Asian ancestry are only 2 percent of this country's popula-

tion, but we are 6 percent of the world population. We will be both the beneficiaries and victims of this global movement towards a world where all people and their cultures will be valued equally. On the one hand, the end of stereotypes and power trips will open up new doors of opportunity. On the other hand, disgruntled Euro-Americans will blame us for problems beyond our individual control, and more Vincent Chin incidents will probably occur.

Within this country, the Euro-American power elite is under siege. They recognize that, if there were a global village of 10 people, our country would represent 5 of those people. Yet we use up 33 percent of the non-renewable resources consumed by that global village every year. It's no wonder they are dreaming up new ways to seal our borders and arm themselves against a world of hunger and deprivation. And it's no wonder that our Asian American sisters and brothers are experiencing poor quality schools, inadequate housing, and a lack of domestic resources as our misguided leaders defend themselves from our cousins overseas.

The specific legal dimensions of this current constitutional crisis are visible every time a member of the Reagan administration speaks. Former Attorney General William French Smith repeatedly called for greater executive power, to cut back the "judicial activism" that had expanded the rights of women, minorities, gays, criminal suspects and others. Current Attorney General Ed Meese, in a speech before the American Bar Association last July, proposed to turn the constitutional clock back several decades by stating that the Bill of Rights did not extend to actions taken by state officials. He went on to denounce elementary notions like the presumption of innocence by stating that only guilty people need Miranda warnings and other rights.

The picture that emerges from all of this, based on the pathbreaking work of Constitutional expert Arthur Kinoy and others, is an administration experimenting with the weakening, abandonment and burial of our constitutional rights. Let me state that again. They are tinkering with our rights by not informing the Congress about Iran/Contra deals, preventing the press from observing the invasion of Grenada, using McCarthy-era statutes to de-

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The U.S. Constitution: Nothing But a Piece of Paper

By Marshall Sumida and Joe Oyama

"You may think that the Constitution is your security. It is nothing but a piece of paper. You may think that the statutes are your security. They are nothing but words in a book," said Charles Evans Hughes, former chief justice. He continues, "You may think that elaborate mechanisms of government are your security — it is nothing at all unless you have sound uncorrupted public opinion to give life to the Constitution, to give vitality to your statutes, to make efficient your government machinery."

On December 8, 1941, when war was declared on Japan during World War 2, for many months an almost eerie calm settled on the West Coast and there was a public attitude of tolerance towards persons of Japanese ancestry. There were only a few outbreaks of racial violence.

The thrust of the radio and press was for an all-out war against Japan until victory was achieved. National unity was paramount. Nisei were praised for contributing to the national war effort, raising money to purchase war bonds and bombers, and for volunteering for Red Cross

and civil defense duty. In the press, Nisei were lauded for national defense work, and for volunteering for combat.

But almost overnight this tolerant public attitude changed dramatically to one of suspicion and hatred. A *San Francisco Chronicle* editorial described the atmosphere as "venomous."

West Coast lobbyists and their racist cohorts had planted seeds of suspicion, spreading rumors and conjectures of espionage and sabotage at Pearl Harbor by Japanese Americans.

Washington, D.C., was in the throes of prosecuting an all-out war against the Axis powers and reorganizing the national defense industries. Bombarded daily by the lobbyists about the West Coast "Japanese problem" as though there would be an armed uprising at any moment, Executive Order 9066 and the race-based Public Law 503 were enacted (the latter in haste without hearing or debate.) The excuse given was that there wasn't time enough to "sort the bad apples from the good ones."

As a result 110,000 American citizens and longtime resident aliens of Japanese ancestry were uprooted

from their homes and placed in guarded compounds in remote areas of the country without trial or hearing up to a period of 4 years in violation of their constitutional rights.

In Hawaii, closer to the enemy, there was an emergency condition. Martial law was declared. On the West Coast since there was no emergency condition, martial law was not declared.

Since an emergency condition requiring martial law did not exist, race-based Executive Order 9066 and Public Law 503 were enacted, a substitution for a declaration of martial law. The substitution was effected in the name of "military necessity."

In the absence of an emergency condition requiring martial law, a constitutional amendment is required to transfer such awesome power over civilians to the military. This was done in violation of the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment.

In wartime the Constitution is not suspended. When the lobbyists pressured the military to violate the Constitution, they committed sedition.

On October 14, 1942, Congressman Edward V. Izaac, a California Demo-

crat, said in an interview, "The army was only slightly more willing than the Justice Department to evacuate the Japs. Evacuation would never have taken place if the United Pacific Coast delegations had not applied pressure — not only upon the attorney general and the secretary of war — but also on the president himself."

After December 7, 1941 the Joint Chiefs of Staff established the main line of defense at Hawaii and it was not taken by the enemy. Their consensus was that the thrust of the enemy's main military objective was Southeast Asia.

On the West Coast there was little danger of invasion and no need to declare martial law. Hawaii was in a battle zone under martial law, yet the Military Commander there found no need to declare "military necessity" to forcibly move Japanese Americans into concentration camps.

The question often asked is, "Why did Lieutenant General John L. Dewitt find such a drastic action necessary?"

During World War II the United States government was officially fighting an anti-Fascist war against Nazi concepts of Aryan supremacy, Italian Fascism, and the Imperial Japanese army's claims of a holy war against the white race. Japan, ironically, was called an "Honorary Aryan" nation by the Axis powers.

In time of war, there are great contradictions.

Playing into the hands of the enemy's claim that this was a race war, the yellow against the white, the West Coast lobbyists and their cohorts pitted race against race, citizen against citizen, and brother against brother in a time when national unity was paramount, subverting the national war effort on the West Coast.

In the December 1980 report of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians the conclusion was, "The promulgation of Executive Order 9066 was not justified by military necessity, and the decisions which followed from it — detention, ending detention and ending exclusion — were not driven by analysis of military condition. The broad historical causes which shaped these decisions were race prejudice, war hysteria and a failure of political leadership. Widespread ignorance of Japanese Americans contributed to a policy conceived in haste and executed in an atmosphere of fear and anger at Japan. A grave injustice was done to American citizens and aliens of Japanese ancestry who, without individual review or any probative evidence against them, were excluded, removed and detained by the United States during World War II." ■

Banquet to Honor JANM Architects and Nishikawa

LOS ANGELES — The architects who have contributed their professional services to the Japanese American National Museum (JANM) will receive the annual award of Asian American Architects and Engineers (AAA/E) at the "We the People: Tenth Anniversary Awards Banquet" on Oct. 29 at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel.

Also receiving an award is Commissioner Dennis Noboru Nishikawa of the Board of Public Works for the City of Los Angeles.

According to AAA/E President William J. Yang, architects of the museum were chosen because of the numerous contributions that have been made and are being made by people of Japanese ancestry to the entire community.

The Architects Consortium includes Marcia Chiono, David K. Kikuchi, Shigeru Masumoto, Yoshio Nishimoto, Frank T. Sata, George Shinno, Robert H. Uyeda and Takashi

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DEATH

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tain Palestinian Americans, and so forth. They are hoping that we won't notice. And, if we do, they hope that we'll be so overwhelmed that we won't care. Once our fundamental rights are weakened then we can expect to see them abandoned and finally buried the way the rights of Blacks were buried after the Reconstruction until their revival in the 1950's.

Now you can see why I called this talk "Asian Americans and the Death of the Constitution." It's much harder to risk your home and family. It's much harder to stand alone, with only principle on your side.

We as Asian Americans have participated fully in the struggle to shape and uphold the Constitution over the years. We have started to work with a rainbow of Americans

to address some of our deepest societal needs. And we have armed ourselves with the knowledge of our own history and the history of other patriotic Americans who have risked everything for the ideals embodied in this yellowing, 200-year-old piece of parchment.

The Constitution survived these past 200 years only because people like us chose to leave the comfort of our homes to struggle for what we believed to be right. I certainly hope that all of you are prepared to continue that struggle in the difficult years ahead.

Philip Tajitsu Nash teaches at the City University of New York (CUNY) Law School and serves on the Board of the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund. This speech reflects only his own personal views. He can be reached at the CUNY Law School, 65-21 Main Street, Flushing, N.Y. 11367; (718) 575-4319.

SMITHSONIAN

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the Constitution."

Other ceremony highlights included a keynote address by Sen. Spark M. Matsunaga (D-Hawaii), speeches by Sen. Daniel K. Inouye

(D-Hawaii), Rep. Norman Y. Mineta (R-Calif.), Rep. Robert T. Matsui (R-Calif.), Rep. Daniel K. Akaka (D-Hawaii) and closing remarks by Rep. Patricia F. Saiki (R-Hawaii), Mistress of Ceremonies.

The event was also broadcast by co-anchor Wendy Tokuda of KPIX-TV News. Tokuda's coverage, which includes interviews with some former internees, will be shown in a report on the civil rights denied Japanese Americans after she returns from Washington.

The event was sponsored by the National Japanese American Historical Society, the National Nisei Veterans Committee and the Japanese American Citizens League.

APASG Awards Dinner to Honor Five

LOS ANGELES — George Takei, actor and community leader, will be the keynote speaker at the University of Southern California Asian Pacific American Support Group (APASG) Awards Dinner to be held Oct. 15 at the Biltmore Hotel.

The third annual scholarship fund-raising event will honor five individuals whose contributions have been beneficial to the Asian community in Southern California. Honorees include Edgardo de la Vega, D.D.S.; Yen Ngoc Do, founder and editor of *Nguoi Viet*, the largest Vietnamese/English newspaper in the U.S.; David Hyun, president of David Hyun Associates; Mary Takagaki, 20-year USC staff member; and Wilbur Woo, prominent Chinese American civic and business leader.

De la Vega, an alumnus of the USC School of Dentistry, is active in the Filipino Dental Society of California and the Peer Review Committee of the Los Angeles Dental Society, and has been appointed to the State Board of Dental Examiners. He has also provided support and leadership to various Filipino service organizations.

Yen Ngoc Do is the founder and editor of *Nguoi Viet*, the largest Vietnamese/English newspaper in the U.S. The paper provides a vital link for information and a valuable voice to the Vietnamese community. Since his arrival from Saigon in 1975, Do, now a U.S. citizen, has used his experiences and journalistic skills to help interpret the tremendous challenges that face fellow immigrants in the transition to their new homeland.

Hyun has been a business and civic leader in the Japanese, Chinese, Filipino and Korean American communities for decades. Hyun is an award-winning and pioneer Asian American architect,

and is best known for the Japanese Village Plaza in the Little Tokyo area of Los Angeles. He serves as chairman of the Korean American Coalition and on the board of the Japanese American National Museum.

A staff member in the USC Registrar's Office for the past 20 years, Takagaki has provided leadership to many organizations, including the PTA, YMCA, March of Dimes, Japan America Society, Japanese American Community Services and church groups. On the USC campus, Takagaki serves as director of the Staff Club, current chair of the Rights and Responsibility Committee and chair of the Supervisory Committee at the USC Credit Union. In 1985 she received the President's Award as Staff Person of the Year.

Woo, chairman of the board of Chungking Produce Co., has been a prominent Chinese American leader in local, state, national and international affairs. In addition to serving on the board of directors of Cathay Bank and serving as chairman of the California-Taiwan Trade and Investment Council, Woo is active in community and civic affairs. He is a member of the Los Angeles Urban Renewal Advisory Council and the Los Angeles International Visitors Committee. A former vice chairman of the United Way Central Los Angeles Board, Woo also served as director on the boards of the Chinatown Service Center.

In addition to the honoring these individuals, the event will award nine scholarships to students who have displayed academic achievement, community involvement and financial need.

Tickets to the dinner are \$75 a person and \$750 for a table of ten. For reservations, contact Jeanne Yeol-Ishikawa at (213) 743-4999.

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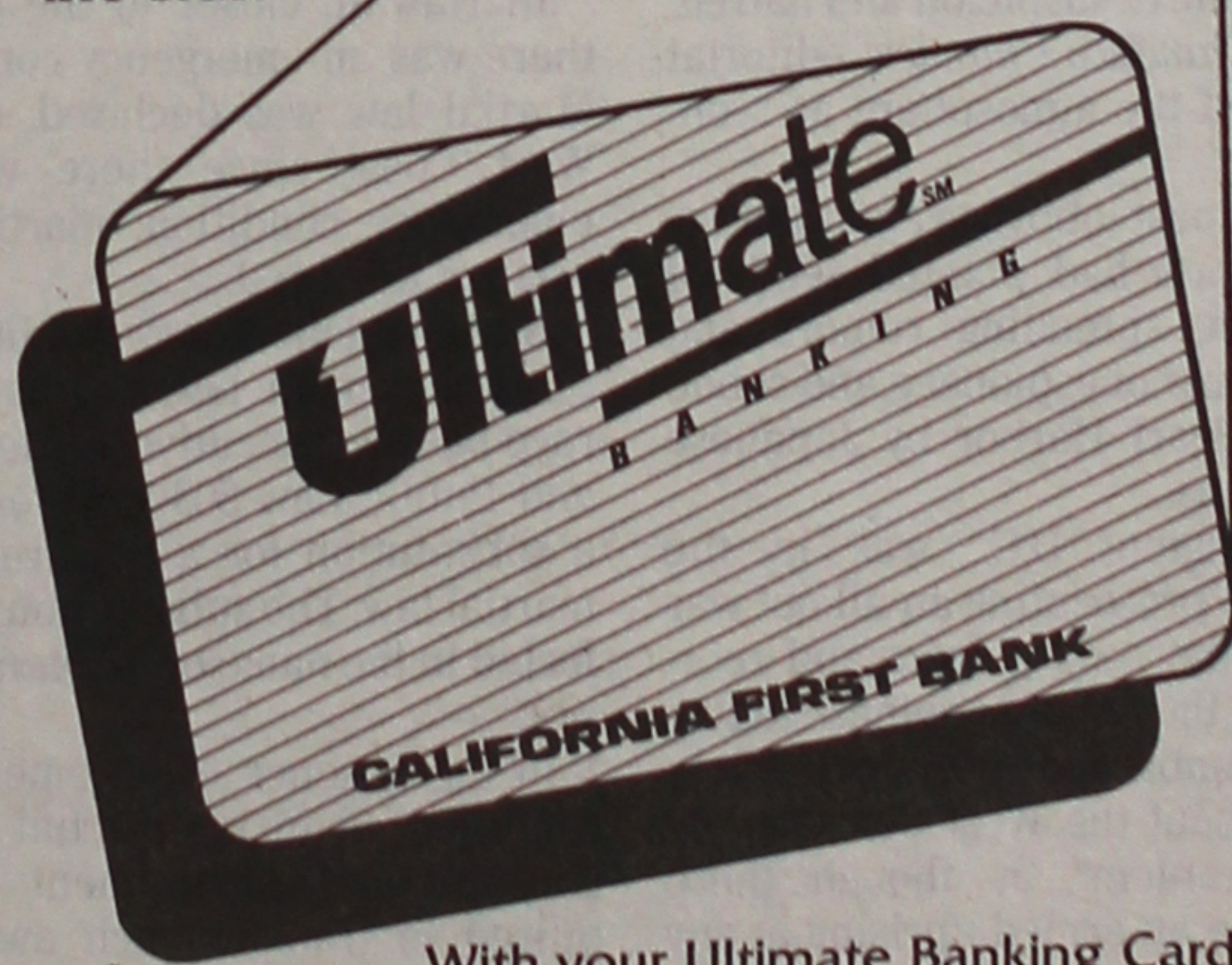
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The Calendar

Publicity items for The Calendar must be mailed at least THREE WEEKS IN ADVANCE. Please specify a day or night phone contact for further information.

FRESNO

■ Oct. 25—The Fresno Betsuin's "Annual Food Bazaar," 11:30 am-4 pm, Fresno Convention Center Exhibit Hall, includes entertainment and cultural exhibits.

LOS ANGELES

■ Present-Oct. 16—Bunka Shodo Exhibition, 12 pm-5 pm, George J. Doizaki Gallery, JACCC, 244 S. San Pedro St., 90012, closed Mondays. Free. Info: 213 628-2725.

■ Present-Nov. 6—"Bijyutsu, Hogaku: Japanese," a group exhibition of Los Angeles contemporary artists, at the FHP Hippodrome Gallery, M-F, 10 am-4 pm, Tues. until 7 pm. Info: 213 432-8431.

■ Oct. 1—"Tofu Festival," 1-4 pm, Japanese Village Plaza, Little Tokyo. Features the "Cold Tofu" improvisational theater group, Miss Nikkei California & her court and more. Info: 213 620-8861.

■ Oct. 10—"Senior Empowerment for the Asian Pacific Community." Offered by the Asian Human Care Center and the Asian Pacific American Legal Center, 7-9 pm, E. San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center, 1203 W. Puente Ave., West Covina. Info: Yumi Tsukahira, 213 933-8537.

■ Oct. 10—Meet Sen. Spark Matsunaga at "Luau 87," sponsored by California Friends of Sparky. 5 pm—Social Hour; 6-7 pm—Dinner. Southeast Japanese Center, 14615 Gridley Rd., Norwalk. Donation: \$25 ea. Info: Larry Wong, 213 534-5937; Tats Sugino, 213 924-4301.

■ Oct. 14—The Japanese American Republicans Dinner, "An Evening Honoring Japanese American Appointees by Gov. Deukmejian," 6:30-7 pm, Kawafuku Restaurant, 1636 W. Redondo Beach Blvd., Gardena. M.C.: George Takei. Guest Speaker: Clarence Pendleton. \$35 ea. Info: 213 427-6247.

■ Oct. 11—The Nikkei Widowed Group Potluck Luncheon and White Elephant Sale, 1:30-4:30 pm, room 4-b, JACCC, 244 S. San Pedro St. Features a reading of a Neil Simon play by the Common Bond Widowed Group. White elephants are to be unwrapped. Lunch is at 1:30 pm. Info: Marie, 213 836-3743.

■ Oct. 17-18—Southern California's "Masters of Martial Arts," Japanese Village Plaza, Little Tokyo. Aikido, Kali, Jeet Kune Do, Judo, Karate, Kenjutsu, Kung Fu and the Zenshujii Taiko Group to be featured. Info: 213 620-8861.

■ Oct. 25—The New Otani Hotel's Chef Nobuo Saga will demonstrate a small version of a formal Kaiseki meal during a cooking class, 3-4pm, 120 S. Los Angeles St. Cost: \$9/ea. advance tickets, \$10 on the 25. Reservations or additional info: 213 629-1200, ext. 3.

NEW YORK

■ Present-Oct. 25—Sayonara, at the Paper Mill Playhouse, Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. Matinees: Thurs., 2 pm; Sat. & Sun., 3 pm. Tickets: \$16 to \$30, call 201 376-4343.

■ Oct. 5-11—The Universal Jazz Coalition's 4th annual "Asian/Asian American Jazz & Cultural Festival," at the Jazz Center, 380 Lafayette St., in the Village. Info: 212 505-5660.

■ Oct. 13-Nov. 7—Rosie's Cafe, the "prequel" to Yellow Fever, by the Pan Asian Repertory, Playhouse 46, St. Clement's, 423 W. 46th St. Box Office: 212 245-2660.

SAN DIEGO

■ Present-Nov. 8—"Black Sun: The Eyes of Four," San Diego Museum of Art, Balboa Park. Info: 619 232-7931.

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

■ Oct. 10—NCCRR members Tsuyako Kitashima and John Ota will appear on "Asian Journal," 6-6:30 am, KTSF channel 26, to discuss with host June-Ko Nakagawa the approval of HR 442 and other redress topics.

■ Oct. 17—"Sansei Live!," a night of fun, food, comedy and dancing. 7 pm-1:30 am, Giftcenter Pavilion, 888 Brannan St., San Francisco. Hostess: Wendy Tokuda. Honorary Co-Chairs: Warren Furutani and San Jose Taiko. Entertainment: Section Eight, Mr.

Music, the Dave Yamasaki Band, Richard Kishimoto, San Jose Taiko and more. Benefits Kimochi, Inc. Info: 415 931-2294.

■ Oct. 17—"The 11th Annual Asian American Art Exhibit and Auction," 1-6 pm, El Cerrito Senior Center, 6500 Stockton St., El Cerrito. Includes food bazaar. Admission: \$2.50. Info: 415 285-5613 or 415 567-7599.

■ Oct. 18—The Oakland Japanese Methodist Episcopal Church (later known as West Tenth Methodist Church) celebrates its 100th anniversary, 281 Santa Clara Ave., Oakland. 2:30 pm, commemorative service; 5 pm, fellowship hour followed by banquet, Oakland Hyatt Regency Hotel, 1001 Broadway. Info: 415 444-7262.

STOCKTON

■ Oct. 11—Mr. Kinji Hiramoto, CPA, will discuss questions on taxes and financial matters as guest speaker during the the San Joaquin Valley Widowed and Divorced Group meeting, 2-4 pm, Stockton Buddhist Church, 2820 Shimizu Dr.

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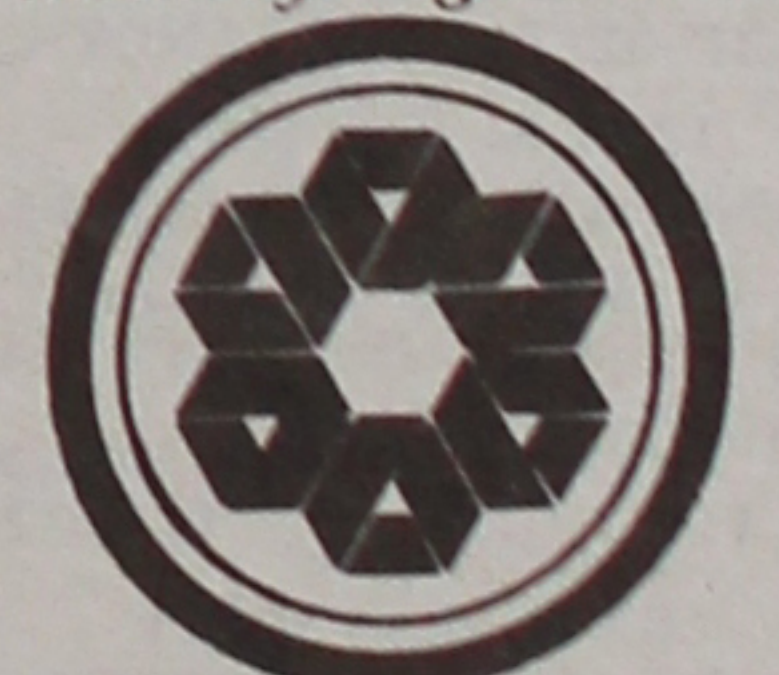
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ARCHITECTS

Continued from page 6

shi Shida, chair and past AAA/E Architect of the Year.

"Many forces within the Japanese American community were united to create the museum," said Nancy Araki, JANM project coordinator. "JANM defined its specific needs and then assigned tasks to committees consisting of volunteers who donate their professional services. The eight individuals brought together as the Architects Consortium are among the many volunteers making this unique, Los Angeles-area Museum a reality."

Efforts by the consortium in turning the former Nishi Hongwanji building, located at East First Street and Central Avenue in Little Tokyo, into a museum required special sensitivity. Plans had to consider the community's emotional attachment to the historical building while converting it for use as a museum with administrative offices.

As recipient of the 1987 President's Award from both the Asian Business Association (ABA) and the

BORK LATER

Continued from page 1

Nisei about wanting redress to succeed before they die, makes me question taking the risk. My conscience is clear because I have personally done what I can do on the Bork issue."

Denny Yasuhara, PNW District governor, moved to defer action on Judge Bork's confirmation, and Fujioka seconded it. On a roll call, the votes were:

YES — Cherry Kinoshita, Hid Hasegawa (IDC), Ken Inouye (PSW), Ruth Mizobe, Tom Kometani (EDC), Bob Sakaguchi (MPDC), Mae Takahashi (CCDC), Denny Yasuhara (PNWDC) and Mollie Fujioka.

NO — Yosh Nakashima, Bill Marutani, Alan Nishi, Mary Nishimoto and John Hayashi (MDC).

CORAM NOBIS

Continued from page 3

Yasui. At the time when my father initiated the test case and when he initiated the *coram nobis* case, it was never simply for himself and his own criminal record, it was always for the Japanese American community, for Americans as a whole ... to guarantee constitutional rights of all Americans."

AAA/E, Nishikawa is cited for his efforts that have benefitted Asian American contractors.

Recognized by ABA President Philip C. Chen as aiding ABA organizations and members with his knowledge of obtaining city contracts, Nishikawa vowed to do his part as the board's first Asian American Commissioner to increase the number of city contracts awarded to Asian-owned firms.

At a general meeting of the AAA/E earlier this year, Nishikawa found Asian American contractors submitted too few bids to properly analyze the city's response, and he emphasized the need of having more Asian American contractors enter the city's system. Through the L.A. Board of Public Works, he announced a series of workshops to reverse the trend.

In a recent interview, he said, "My goal is to position the city as a matchmaker, bring the prime contractors with Asian American subcontractors and combine the strengths of these primes with the capabilities of the subs. The city will benefit from the public services and good economics of the resulting relationships."

Confirmed as commissioner by the City Council on February 4, Nishikawa plans to host a one-day workshop with a trade fair, possibly by June 1988. The city's prime contractors will be encouraged to take booths at the trade fair so minority subcontractors can meet them and discuss their qualifications.

JACL Chapter Pulse

CHICAGO

• New Horizons Singles Club's "Lake Geneva Luncheon Cruise," Oct. 10. Meet at the JASC parking lot 8 am for round-trip bus ride to Lake Geneva. Approx. return time — 3 pm. Fee: \$24.50 ea. by Sept. 24. Mail to Jim Murata, 570 N. East River Rd., Des Plaines, IL 60016.

• Racquetball Party, Sat. Oct. 17, 7-11 pm, Prairie View Bldg., 6834 Dempster, Morton Grove. Locks, lockers, towels, racquets and balls provided. \$10 ea. Co-sponsored by Chicago JACL and Chicago Chapter Nat'l Assn. of Young Asian Professionals. Info: Patti 312 465-0343; Joy 312 871-1983; JACL 312 728-7171.

CLEVELAND

• Midwest District Council Fall Meeting, hosted by Cleveland JACL, Oct. 16, 17 and 18, at the Hollenden House Hotel, 610 Superior Avenue. Registration: \$20. Hotel rates, reservation info, etc.: Henry Tanaka, 216 229-2491 or Suzi Nakashige, H/216 842-0443 or W/216 771-4444.

WEST LOS ANGELES

• Annual Installation Luncheon, Nov. 1, 12:30 pm, Trident Center, 11355 W. Olympic Blvd., W.L.A. Guest Speaker: Warren Furutani. Tickets: \$15 ea. RSVP by Oct. 24. Info: Eiko, 213 820-1875; Ron, 213 478-5922 or Chieko, 213 477-7976.

SCAN

• Second annual Car Rallye, Sun., Oct. 11, 3 pm, begins from Mercury Savings Parking lot, 2920 Sepulveda Blvd. Entry: \$15/car of two, additional \$5/person. Info: Paul Sumi,

eve./213 207-2030.

GREATER LOS ANGELES SINGLES

• Monthly meeting, Oct. 9, 7 pm, Founders Savings & Loan, Gramercy and Redondo Beach Blvd., Gardena. Program: Alan Takahashi, financial planner. Info: 213 327-0099, 213 477-6997 or 714 893-2158.

SOUTH BAY

• "Financial Planning for Retirement," 10 am, Oct. 10, Founders Savings and Loan, 2001 W. Redondo Beach Blvd., Torrance. Sponsored by South Bay JACL. Speaker: Dale Okuno, of Okuno Associates Insurance & Financial Services. Free. Info: 213 325-7622.

• South Bay JACL Sansei Singles Committees' Big Bear Weekend, Oct. 16, 17 & 18. Fishing, boating, horseback riding, social activities, getting acquainted exercises & discussion of issues. \$75 ea. RSVP deadline: Sept. 30. Info: Aiko, 213 516-6170 or Midori, 213 541-6698.

MARINA/GARDENA

• "Conquer the Bridge '87," 8K run, 8 am, Nov. 22, Vincent Thomas Bridge in San Pedro. Entry: \$13 for T-shirt & race results booklet, \$10 for fun only. No race day registration; mail-in pre-registration due by Nov. 11th, limited to first 2,500 runners. Info: Conquer the Bridge Run Committee, P.O. Box 9568, Marina del Rey, CA 90295, or 213 568-1525.

Items publicizing JACL Chapter events should be mailed at least THREE WEEKS IN ADVANCE to the P.C. office.



Photo by Tom Masamori

In Appreciation—Eleven Denver-area Nikkei were honored at the third annual *Kansha no Hi* held Sept. 12. (standing, l-r) Dr. Takashi Mayeda, Roy Inouye, Mary Nakamura, *Kansha no Hi* Committee Chairperson Terry Sato, Frank Nakagawa, John Noguchi and Ruth Yamauchi. (seated, l-r) Keishi Murata, Dick Tanino, Shigeo Yanaru, Masano Nakatsuka, Misayo Mizoue.

Deaths

Dr. Edward Ichiro Hashimoto, 76, anatomy professor at the University of Utah, died Aug. 23. He was born in Salt Lake City Feb. 24, 1911, received a bachelor's degree from the University of Utah in 1930, graduated from Harvard Medical School in 1934 and attained a master's degree from the University of Utah in 1936. He was honored with the "outstanding professor award at the University of Utah more times than any other instructor and was made honorary president of the Utah State Medical Association for 1985-86. He is survived by wife, Joy; son, Edward; daughters Joy Douglass, and Ann Pos.

□□□□□□

Rev. Howard N. Toriumi, 71, Pastor Emeritus of the Union Church of Los Angeles and community activist, died July 5 of complications associated with cancer, following a long bout

with Parkinson's disease. He was born in Sacramento on June 2, 1916 and earned a Bachelor of Science from UC Berkeley, then pursued studies at San Francisco Theological Seminary. He was active in JACL since 1940, as well as with the Boy Scouts, the Japanese Evangelical Missionary Society, the Nikkei Ministerial Fellowship and the Japanese Christian Church Federation of Southern California. In 1961 he was called as Pastor of the Union Church in Little Tokyo, and subsequently helped in the creation of the Little Tokyo Community Development Advisory Committee (LTCDAC); his concern for the elderly aided in the construction of the Tokyo Tower residences for seniors. He was also involved in the construction of the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center and Theater. He is survived by wife, Dorothy; sons Malcolm and Jon; and daughters Irene, Christine and Dr. Laura Stephens.

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