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Friday, November 13, 1987

Aratani Honored for Contributions at Fund-raiser

LOS ANGELES — "Brighten the Future" was the slogan for Kenwood Electronics and Mikasa Dinnerware Chairman of the Board George Aratani, honored Nov. 4 at the Century Plaza Hotel for his contributions to the Japanese American community. Almost 1,400 people attended the testimonial dinner for the 70-year old Nikkei, who is also co-chairman of the board of Keiro Health Care Services, Inc., operators of the Japanese Retirement Home, Intermediate Care Facility, Keiro Nursing Home, Minami Keiro Nursing Home and South Bay Keiro Nursing Home.

Recognition for Aratani's philanthropy and involvement came from community organizations including the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, the Japanese American Optimist Club, Keiro Services/Japanese Retirement Home, the University of Southern California, the Hiroshima Kenjinkai of Southern California, Inc., the Boy Scouts of America, the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and a



Pacific Citizen Photo by George Johnston

CONGRATS, BY GEORGE—George Aratani speaks to the audience at a banquet held in his honor at Los Angeles' Century Plaza Hotel on Nov. 4.

variety of Buddhist groups.

Aratani, originally from Gardena, Calif., studied business administration at Japan's Keio Daigaku before returning to the U.S. in 1939 because of his father's death. During WW2, he spent time at the Gila River relocation center before teaching the Japanese language at the Military Intelligence School at Camp Savage, Minnesota. He married Sakaye Inoue in 1944, and they are now grandpa-

rents to seven grandchildren.

During his speech, Aratani updated the audience on the problems caused by the earthquakes of Oct. 1 and 4, as well as progress a new 124-unit facility scheduled to open next year. The tremors resulted in the abandonment of the 98-unit building of the Japanese Retirement Home of Third Street and Boyle Avenue in Los Angeles.

Section-by-Section Report

Committee's Analysis of S.1004

By the JACL-LEC Office

WASHINGTON—The Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs, chaired by Sen. John Glenn (D-Ohio) favorably reported out on Oct. 20 redress bill, S. 1009, for Senate consideration. The following is a section-by-section analysis of S.1009 from the committee report. (Title III, pertaining to the Aleuts, is not included.—Editor.)

Findings and Purpose

Section 1(a) would endorse the findings of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians. In particular, the section states that the findings of the Commission describe accurately and completely the exclusion, relocation, and internment of approximately 120,000 United States citizens and permanent resident aliens, all of Japanese ancestry. The section would make the same finding about the conclusions reached by the Commission concerning the federal treatment of the Aleuts of the Aleutian and Pribilof Islands.

Furthermore, according to Section 1(a), the Congress finds that the internment in the United States of permanent resident aliens and American citizens of Japanese ancestry was carried out without any documented acts of espionage or sabotage, or other acts of disloyalty, by any citizen or permanent resident alien of Japanese ancestry on the West Coast. Nor was there any military reason for the relocation. In fact, racial prejudice, war hysteria, and a failure of political leadership caused the internment, the bill states. Also, according to the language of the bill, Congress finds that the exclusion and relocation caused individuals of Japanese ancestry enormous damages and losses, as well as incalculable losses in education and job training, all of which resulted in significant human suffering. The evacuation and internment fundamentally violated the basic civil liberties and constitutional rights of the individuals of Japanese ancestry so affected.

In addition, under Section 1(a), Congress would fault the federal treatment during World War II of certain Aleuts... That failure, the bill maintains, resulted in widespread illness, disease, and death among the residents of the camps.

Also under this part of Section 1(a) the Congress would find that the United States has not compensated the Aleuts adequately for the conversion or destruction of the Aleuts' personal property because of the occupation and use of that property by United States military forces during the Second World War. Nor has the United States rehabilitated Attu village, precluding the development of Attu Island for the benefit of the Aleuts and impairing the preservation of traditional Aleut property on the island. The only remedy for injustices suffered by the Aleuts, the bill says, is an Act of Congress that provides appropriate compensation for losses attributable to the conduct of United States forces and other officials and employees of the United States.

Section 1(b) describes the purposes of the Act. Accordingly, Congress would acknowledge what the

bill describes as the fundamental injustice of the evacuation, relocation and internment of United States citizens, and permanent resident aliens of Japanese ancestry. Consequently, the text continues, on behalf of the United States for those actions, the Act would provide an apology to those peoples. The legislation would also provide for The Civil Liberties Public Education Fund, which would finance informing the general public about the internment of the Japanese Americans, to prevent any similar event from happening again to any ethnic group in the United States. And, the Act would make restitution to relocated Japanese Americans.

The Act would likewise make restitution to Aleuts who, during World War II, had been evacuated, relocated and interned. The restitution to them would likewise be for injustices suffered and for unreasonable hardship. Moreover, restitution would also be made for property damaged or destroyed during that War, particularly community property, including community church property, taken or destroyed by United States forces during World War II. Restitution would also be provided for traditional village lands on Attu Island not rehabilitated for Aleut occupation or for other productive use after World War II.

Title I. Recognition of Injustice and Apology on Behalf of the Nation

Under Section 101, Congress would accept the findings of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, and recognize that a grave injustice was done to U.S. citizens and resident aliens of Japanese ancestry who had been evacuated, relocated and interned during World War II. On behalf of the Nation, Congress would apologize to those people.

Title II. U.S. Citizens of Japanese Ancestry and Resident Japanese Aliens Definition

Section 201 would define key terms used in this legislation, as follows:

A. "Eligible individual" means anyone of Japanese ancestry who is a United States citizen or permanent resident alien, living on the date of enactment of this Act:

—who was enrolled on the records of the United States Government from December 4, 1941 to June 30, 1946, as being in a prohibited military zone; or

—who had been held in custody, confined or otherwise deprived of liberty or property during

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Tenure Was Denied

UCLA Professor Files Racial Discrimination Suit

LOS ANGELES — Don T. Nakanishi, a professor of Asian American Studies at University of California, Los Angeles, (UCLA) recently filed a grievance suit which charges that the university with racial bias and procedural irregularities denied him a permanent faculty position at the School of Education.

Nakanishi received his bachelors degree from Yale University and his Ph.D. from Harvard University in political science. He is a nationally respected pioneering scholar on Asian American educational and political issues.

In 1982, Nakanishi was hired by UCLA's School of Education to teach, do research and devote professional and community service on Asian Americans and education. He has served as the associate director of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center. In 1985, he won the prestigious National Scholars Award from the National Association for Asian and Pacific American Education for outstanding research, and in 1984 was elected national president of the Association of Asian American Studies. Prof. Lloyd Inui, director of the Asian American Studies Center at California State University, Long Beach, says, "Nakanishi is a brilliant scholar. Being critical of his work is a slap in the face for the entire field of Asian American research."

Denied Tenure

In the fall of 1986, Nakanishi applied for a promotion and permanent tenure position and was denied. Following an appeal, he was granted a reconsideration which is now under way. His grievance suit is being spearheaded by prominent civil rights attorneys Dale Minami of San Francisco and Bill Lann Lee

of Los Angeles.

Racial Overtones

According to Stewart Kwoh, executive director of the Asian Pacific Legal Center, the opposition of UCLA administrators to granting Nakanishi a permanent position has definite racial overtones and may be related to growing anti-Asian sentiments on campus. Attorney Kwoh, a UCLA alumnus, stated that Nakanishi was reviewed negatively on the grounds that his pathbreaking scholarly works on Asian Americans and education, undergraduate admissions and politics were "not relevant."

"It is ironic," Kwoh said, "because Prof. Nakanishi is one of the country's most distinguished scholars on all these vital issues. One cannot speak of the Asian admissions issue or Asian American voting patterns without mentioning his name. He is constantly sought after to share the results of his research with other scholars, California State Legislature, school districts and colleges, national media and major policy groups. He also actively lends his expertise to many local groups. Our legal center, the Japanese American National Museum, Friends of Little Tokyo Public Library and the Japanese American Historical Society have all grown because of him."

Kwoh additionally noted that Nakanishi's case may be directly related to denials of other minority faculty appointments. For example, Dr. Halford Fairchild, a leading psychologist of Black and Japanese ancestry, has a lawsuit pending against the university, charging UCLA officials with racism in faculty promotions.

Community Outcry

The opposition of UCLA officials

towards the promotion of an Asian American to its School of Education, which has no Asian American among its 50 permanent tenured faculty, has provoked outcry and concern from Asian American communities statewide. As a result, the California Coalition for Asian American Concerns at UCLA was formed to monitor anti-Asian movements in the university. Members of the statewide coalition include concerned professors and students, community educators, civil rights leaders and elected officials. Los Angeles Board of Education member Warren Furutani has expressed his support for Nakanishi's efforts to "make UCLA meet the educational needs of Asian Pacific students and communities."

A Time of Heightened Racism

Attorney Casimiro Tolentino, president of the Los Angeles City Board of Civil Service Commissioners says Nakanishi's case comes at a time of heightening anti-Asian racism on campus and increasing attacks on ethnic studies by the university.

"It is no accident that they [UCLA officials] are denying faculty positions to leading ethnic scholars at the same time they are cutting back on Asian American admissions and attempting to evict and relocate the campus ethnic studies centers," said Tolentino. "There is a definite relationship in the stand taken by UCLA officials on all three issues."

"Don Nakanishi has been a leading expert and advocate of equal admission standards and has called for greater representation of Asians in the admissions process. It appears that he is being penalized for being so involved in this issue,"

Continued on page 4

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Committee Okays 4 of Matsunaga's Amendments

WASHINGTON — Four amendments introduced by Sen. Spark Matsunaga (D-Hawaii) have been approved by the Senate Finance Committee, it was announced Oct. 16.

One amendment exempts federal retirees age 50 and over from a 10 percent tax penalty on early distributions from qualified retirement plans.

This is in response to the Tax Reform Act of 1986, which imposed a 10 percent penalty when retirees chose to withdraw their contributions through a lump sum retirement option before age 55. The act affected employees who are required to retire before age 55 because they are in occupations that have been determined by Congress to be so stressful that they may fully retire at age 50.

Unlike workers in the private sector, federal employees cannot avoid the 10 percent penalty by rolling the lump sum distribution into an IRA. As a result, these workers have no way of avoiding the penalty if they choose a lump sum option.

The Matsunaga amendment provides that the 10 percent early withdrawal tax penalty will not apply to distributions from the Civil Service or the Federal Employees Retirement Systems to any federal em-

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Photo by Luis Bautista

SECOND CITY LAW—AABA members (front row seated, l-r) Secretary Sandra Yamate; President Young Kim; Vice President Paul Igasaki; Treasurer Debra Wong. (middle row, l-r) Maureen Yamashiro, Lori Yokoyama, David Igasaki, Michael Kim, Irene Cualoping, directors. (back row, l-r) Calvin Manshio, Graham Carpio, Les Jin, directors. Not pictured: Norris Wang.

AABA Elects Its First Officers

CHICAGO — The Asian American Bar Association of the Greater Chicago Area (AABA) elected its first directors and officers Oct. 22. Elected as its first president was Young Kim, a partner in the law firm of Wildman, Harrold, Allen & Dixon. Paul Igasaki, who serves as the Asian American Liaison for the city of Chicago and is president of Chicago JAACL, was elected vice president. Sandra Yamate, an attorney with Lord, Bissell & Brook, was elected secretary and Debra Wong, also an attorney with Wildman, Harrold, Allen & Dixon, was elected the AABA's first treasurer.

Nine directors were also elected at the meeting. They include: Graham Carpio, Chem Central Corp.; Irene Cualoping, Chicago Title Insurance Co.; David K. Igasaki, Chicago Park District and a member of the Chicago JAACL Board of Directors; Les Jin, U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission; Michael C. Kim, a private practitioner; Calvin K. Manshio, an Illinois Commerce Commissioner; Norris K. Wang, U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services; Maureen D. Yamashiro, Cook County State's Attorney's office; and Lori S. Yokoyama of Hinshaw, Culbertson,

Moelman, Hoban & Fuller.

The AABA is the first bar association to represent all Asian American attorneys in the Chicago area, and already numbers as its members about one-third of the approximated 150 Asian American lawyers in Chicago and its environs. Committees have been formed to pursue the AABA's purposes, including the Legal Committee, Community Services and Programs Committee, Continuing Legal Education and Professional Development Committee, Legislative and Judicial Development Committee, Membership Committee and Social Committee.

"I am pleased by the outburst of enthusiasm which led to the formation of the association," said Kim. "Our initial members embrace a wide variety of Asian backgrounds as well as a diversity of legal talents and practices. This broad base will help us to better serve the legal profession and the different Asian communities in Chicago."

Asian American attorneys or law students interested in joining the AABA should contact Sandra Yamate, secretary, Asian American Bar Association of the Greater Chicago Area, at 312 443-0270.

ployee on or after retirement if the employee retires on or after age 50.

Another amendment would minimize the impact of the Tax Reform Act of 1986 on pension benefits for Hawaii's state and county retirees. This amendment, which will serve as a provision of the 1988 Budget Reconciliation Act, counters what Matsunaga called an "unfair" section of the 1986 Tax Reform Act. Under the act, retirees who had already withdrawn their contributions under Option 4 or 5 of the

Hawaii Employees' State Retirement System after July 1, 1986 faced the prospect of paying unexpected taxes, while Hawaii employees nearing retirement faced the prospect of having a large portion of their withdrawals subject to tax.

Under the Matsunaga amendment, instead of paying taxes on a substantial segment of the advance withdrawal, retirees choosing a refund retirement option will be able to retrieve their pension contributions made prior to January 1, 1987

without paying any taxes.

Employees under Option 4 or 5 will still be able to withdraw contributions made before January 1, 1987 tax-free no matter when they retire, Matsunaga said. Only employee contributions made on or after January 1, 1987 will be subject to the new rules of the Tax Reform Act of 1986.

An amendment to increase outpatient mental health benefits under Medicare was also approved by the finance committee. This is in response to the current \$250 "cap" on outpatient mental health benefits, which has not been increased since Medicare was established in 1965. Matsunaga's amendment would increase the \$57 worth of care in 1987 to \$1,100.

"Medicare's inadequate coverage discourages many beneficiaries from seeking mental health care when it is most timely and effective; consequently, there is much needless suffering and expense," the senator said.

"The acceptance of my amend-

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Attorney Aided Nikkei During WW2 Internment

The following was excerpted from an Aug. 4 article published in the San Jose Mercury News.

SAN JOSE—J.B. Peckham is hardly a household name to most former internees of the U.S. camps during WW2. And yet, because of his actions, some had a different experience upon their return home to the West Coast.

After their release from camp, many Japanese Americans and legal resident aliens found their homes, farms and businesses destroyed, vandalized, re-rented or seized by opportunists who had masqueraded as friends. Many in San Jose, however, had their properties protected by Peckham, a Caucasian lawyer who had long been a friend of the Asian community.

Prior to the war, when immigrants of Japanese ancestry were denied the privilege of naturalization and thus could not own land, Peckham owned it for them in name only. During the war and evacuation, he also held their homes and businesses in his name and kept a daily watch and negotiated subleases for them.

"It was common knowledge at the time, but it's certainly not anymore," said Gary Okihiro, an ethnic studies professor at Santa Clara University and co-author of the *The Japanese Legacy*. "Some of it was done through legal means, some of it was done in other ways. But there were a lot of good deeds done by white men like J.B. Peckham."

Least Hostile

San Jose was considered one of the least hostile environments for those of Japanese ancestry after the war. The city's reputation grew in part from a group called the Council for Civic Unity of San Jose, which set up hostels for the homeless evacuees in the Buddhist and Methodist churches of Japantown.

According to a study published by a city commission in 1985, a seemingly safe environment and lack of farm jobs in the Central Valley contributed to an increased resettlement of the city by former internees.

Although, discriminatory incidents did occur, the number was kept down, many say, partly because of Peckham's role in a movement to

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Pacific Citizen Photo by George Johnston

AAJA ALL-STARS—"The Role and Future of the Ethnic Media" was the topic of discussion during the pictured session at the AAJA Convention held Sept. 23-26 in Los Angeles. (l-r) K.W. Lee, Harry Honda, Gil Roy Gorre, Serena Chen, Ron Chew, Chris Komai and Doug Wong.

Is There a Future for AA Press?

By J.K. Yamamoto

LOS ANGELES — What role does the Asian American press play? Will it still be relevant in the future or will it eventually die out?

Those questions were addressed in September during the Asian American Journalists Association's national convention by a panel featuring speakers from Japanese, Chinese, Korean and Filipino American publications.

Ron Chew, editor of the *International Examiner*, a newspaper serving the Seattle-area Asian American community, noted, "We are still around and other publications . . . have died out." He explained that "one of the things that we've been able to do successfully is react to different issues that came up in the community."

"The future is kind of a question," he said, "because people are becoming assimilated, there's a lot of upward mobility, people are just becoming more interested in materialistic values, and we don't focus at all on that kind of market . . . But we're still around . . . We have real strong community sup-

port."

The paper remains viable, said Chew, by "reading people in the community and seeing what kinds of issues are on their minds."

Doug Wong of the San Francisco-based *Rice* magazine, which made its debut earlier this year, said his publication is in a less secure position.

"We hope to be able to lead the communication between all the different Asian nationalities," he said. "It's going to be a very tough fight because right now we see a balance of Asian nationals and Asian Americans. Right now we as a new publication are just growing and understanding the different cultures . . . (from) Japanese culture to Korean, Chinese, Filipino, Vietnamese cultures."

Chew suggested that concentrating on one area — in his case Seattle's International District — gave his paper an advantage. "There were problems in terms of trying to bridge some of those gaps between different groups . . . having that geographic base was enough for us

Continued on page 5

Time Capsules Contain Record of Sept. 17 Vote

WASHINGTON — Rep. Norman Mineta (D-Calif.) has included copies of the full Congressional Record of Sept. 17 in each of two historic time capsules to be planted in California.

On Sept. 17, the House of Representatives passed the Civil Liberties Act of 1987, which would redress the surviving internees of U.S. camps during WW2. The Congressional Record from that date will be planted at West Valley College in Saratoga, California, and at Mission College, in Santa Clara.

The time capsules, which will be unearthed in the year 2001, will be included within two historic groves established by the American Forestry Association as part of the five-year bicentennial celebration of the U.S. Constitution. The college sites are the only such groves to be established in California.

"To celebrate the 200th year of our great Constitution, I can think of no better artifact which embodies the spirit and substance of the American people than does the Congressional Record of September 17," said Mineta.

"By passing the Civil Liberties Act of 1987, . . . we proved to ourselves and to the world that we have guts enough to admit our mistakes and to attempt to make amends."

AMENDMENT

Continued from page 2

ment is a major step in the legislative effort toward providing equality for the mentally ill under the Medicare program."

Finally, an amendment which would greatly expand the number of new-home buyers eligible for low-cost Hula Mae mortgages was approved by the committee.

Matsunaga said his proposal was accepted as an amendment to a comprehensive budget reconciliation bill.

The proposal originated because IRS regulations made Hawaii's unique leasehold condominiums ineligible for the federal mortgage subsidy bond program.

"This has had the effect of removing from eligibility a large portion of the properties most affordable to first-time homebuyers," Matsunaga said. "It also unfairly discriminated against Hawaii because nowhere else in the nation is there leasehold property in this price range receiving similar treatment under the law."

"The amendment will correct this inequity and greatly increase the inventory of housing available for Hula Mae buyers in Hawaii."

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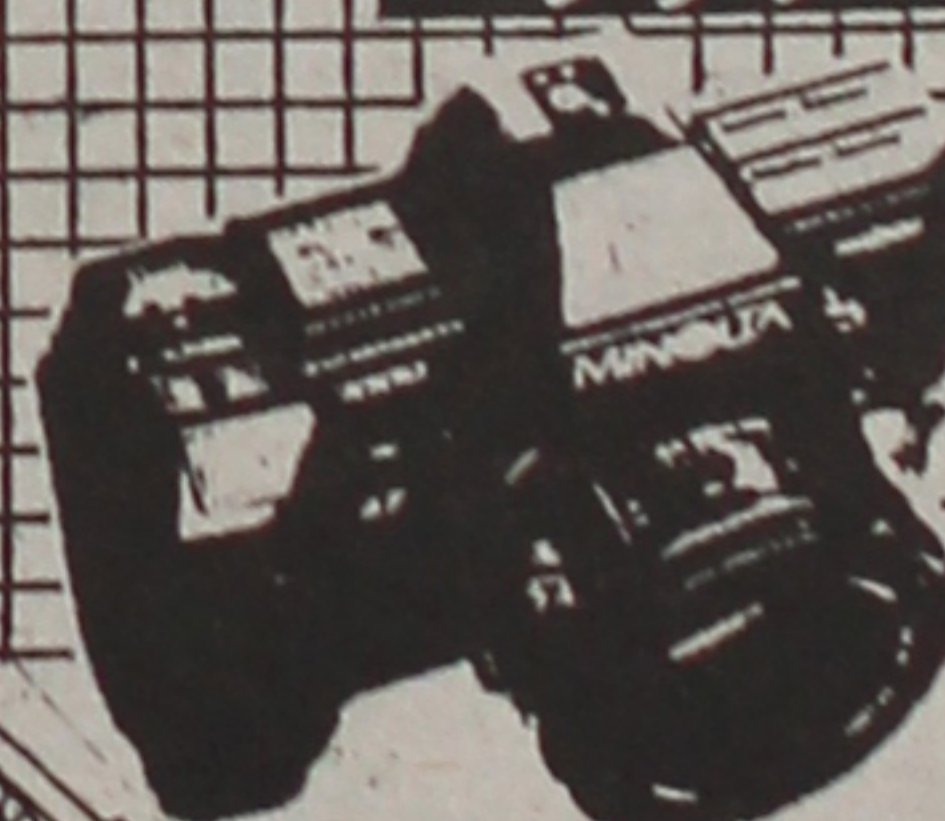
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EDITORIALS OF THE PACIFIC CITIZEN:

WW2 Internment - More Info

ANOTHER generation of Japanese Americans (b. 1960-70) is awakening to the sorry history of American injustice done unto some 110,000 people who were detained, incarcerated or interned during World War II because of their Japanese ancestry and living on the West Coast and parts of Arizona, while in Hawaii the 158,000 persons of Japanese ancestry were not subject to mass evacuation. Logistics, manpower needs and trust were factors that prevailed against predilections to copy what was occurring on the West Coast.

No doubt, passage of H.R. 442 redress bill—the Civil Liberties Act of 1987—in the U.S. House of Representatives last Sept. 17 continues to stimulate more than passing interest to inquire of the Pacific Citizen for more information and pictures.

While a selected bibliography on the Japanese experience in America, prepared by JACL, has been available over the years, there are two booklets currently in print which contain pertinent information and pictures of the WW2 era.

(1) "The Lost Years: 1942-46", edited by Sue Kunitomi Embrey (Manzanar Committee, 1566 Curran St., Los Angeles, CA 90026; 1972, 60pp, \$5), contains a chronology of the Evacuation-Relocation era, a modest bibliography, selected writings and photographs.

As a centerpiece is historian Roger Daniels' 1967 essay, "Why It Happened Here," that details the political and social hysteria facing Japanese Americans on the West Coast after Pearl Harbor was bombed by Japanese navy planes. Circumstances are described leading to President Roosevelt signing Executive Order 9066—which started the government wheels to forcibly move persons of Japanese ancestry inland to concentration camps. The court cases of Hirabayashi, Korematsu and Endo are cited—cases testing the U.S. government's authority to exact a curfew or evacuate a citizen on the basis of race, or to hold them in camp without due process or trial. While the Supreme Court conceded with the Army on their right to set curfews or evacuate people because of "military requirements of that hour" (words of Associate Justice Robert O. Douglas), the Court in the Endo case ordered her release after she had been detained without trial or charges for 28 months. "The Court... refused to inquire into the constitutional question of how she got there, much to the disgust of Justices Murphy and Roberts," comments Dr. Daniels.

Why it happened here is elucidated in the subsequent paragraphs. He points to race prejudice, the anti-Oriental climate in California and wondered if "using our prejudice to distort due process was, in some ways at least, worse than the mob violence that might have occurred but didn't."

(2) "Redress! The American Promise", designed and authored by Kango Kunitsugu (JACL-PSWDC, 244 S. San Pedro St., Los Angeles, CA 90012; 1986, 28pp, \$3), complements the above since this booklet's thrust is on the Japanese American resolve to right the injustice of the *Lost Years* through rights enunciated in the First Amendment "to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

The booklet emphasizes that redress is NOT a Japanese American issue but an American issue because of the failure of the Congress, the President and the Supreme Court to uphold the Constitution.

Because of better quality paper, the photos and pictures in the JACL-LEC booklet are clear and copy-able for a school report. Besides the pictures of the evacuation and camp life, there are historic prewar photos, scenes of Nisei soldiers in Europe and in the Pacific, and a mass of Issei being naturalized at the Hollywood Bowl.

Redress being the main subject, the booklet ends with inclusion of the five remedies as an "act of national apology" from Congress as recommended by the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, which had conducted fact-finding hearings in 1981-82, listening to some 750 witnesses across the country and examining over 10,000 documents and an economic impact study.

Until our own supply is exhausted, the P.C. offers both booklets at \$10 postpaid (1st Class/U.S.) Our stock of "Lost Years" is low.

Excellent, But Out-of-Print

THERE is an excellent softcover publication, "The Experience of Japanese Americans," published by JACL under a federal government grant in 1974 as a teacher's resource manual which is out-of-print. Now that it's out-of-print, it has acquired an appreciable glow, a special attraction as a collector's item.

JACL had two reasons for its publication:

(1) Instructional material on the subject was inadequate or inaccurate in fact, distorted or stereotypic in style;

(2) An urgent need to promote concepts of cultural pluralism through incorporation of the Japanese American experience in a meaningful educational concept and system.

Over half of the manual is devoted to suggestions for the teacher. Activities are designed according to the size of the community, i.e., where there are concentrations of Japanese Americans vs. where the number is smaller or none at all.

In touting this manual here, it is a reminder that JACL has always wanted to reprint the 192-page book, updated if possible. The job of what it would cost and the where the money was coming from relegated the project to the backburner. Recent or current JACL board members are probably unaware of this educational jewel. Some benefactor or perhaps a well-heeled chapter might furnish the answer to a lot of prayers.

A Few Sidelights of Masaoka Autobiography

Last week this newspaper published a very interesting review of "They Call Me Moses Masaoka," Mike Masaoka's autobiography. However, a book review, being a brief account of a lengthy and detailed work, usually is able to catch only the essence of what the author is saying. For this reason I hope you will indulge me if I use my weekly allotment of space to provide a few sidelights.

The book, which covers a significant period of Japanese American history through the experiences of the man who was at the center of much of the action, almost missed publication. We began work on it more than four years ago. Then Masaoka fell desperately ill, and the project had to be put off for several years. There was much more interviewing that needed to be done to complete the book. Fortunately Mike regained enough strength so the project could be continued.

Virtually all the interviews were taped in the pleasant downstairs study in the Masaokas' Maryland home just outside the District of Columbia. We would talk informally while I made notes about material that needed to be checked and researched, and then I'd return home to Denver to put it all into manuscript form.

Under prodding, Mike recalled

ANALYSIS

Continued from page 1

that period, because of one of several laws or executive orders of that period.

The laws and regulations are defined as Executive Order 9066, and the law that defined penalties for anyone violating orders to enter or leave the designated military areas (56 Stat. 173). In addition, included for purposes of this Title, are any other Executive order, Presidential proclamation, law of the United States or its agents, representatives, officers, or employees that excluded, relocated, or detained individuals because of their race.

B. "Fund": the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund, established under section 204.

C. "Board": the Civil Liberties Public Education Board of Directors, established in section 206.

D. "Evacuation, relocation and internment period": from December 7, 1941 to June 30, 1946.

E. "Commission": the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians established by Public Law 96-317.

Criminal Convictions

Section 202(a) would ask the Attorney General to review any case in which a United States citizen, or permanent resident alien, of Japanese ancestry, who is living on the

FROM THE FRYING PAN

Bill Hosokawa



many episodes of his life unknown even to some of his closest friends. Let me mention a few of the more dramatic and touching ones included in the book.

Mike's father was killed by a hit-and-run driver on the eve of Mike's ninth birthday. As distraught as his mother was, she sensed Mike's grief and made him the only birthday cake they could afford—a loaf of raisin bread covered with melted sugar frosting.

In the tense days before the Evacuation decision early in 1942, Masaoka and Saburo Kido were summoned to FBI headquarters in San Francisco. For the first time Mike tells what happened there that left them ashen and shaken, and caused them to wonder whether their world was coming to an end.

He had no reservations about demanding for Nisei the right to serve in the military. Yet, when the Pentagon proposed a segregated unit, he was torn by the unfairness of it, and

date of enactment, was convicted of violating the laws of the United States during the internment period. These cases would include convictions for violating military orders. According to the section the convictions must have resulted from charges filed against anyone falling under the purview of this legislation—when the persons convicted had been evacuated, relocated or interned during World War II.

Under Section 202(b), based on the Attorney General's review (as described in the previous paragraph), the Attorney General would be asked to make recommendations for pardons to the President. Eligible for such recommendations would be Japanese Americans whose conviction during the War was found by the Attorney General to derive from a refusal. That is, they must have been convicted for refusing to obey a law during the War that discriminated against them because of their race or ethnicity.

Section 202(c) would ask the President to offer pardons to those individuals recommended by the Attorney General.

Consideration of Commission Findings

Section 203 would help Japanese Americans seeking the restitution of any Federal position, status or entitlement lost as a result of Government actions during the relocation

he wondered how badly Nisei patriotism had been scarred by the injustice of the Evacuation.

The day Mike's brother Ben Frank died in battle, he gave Mike a ring that he had painstakingly shaped out of a 25-cent piece, then went up to the front on a mission that ended in death. The next day Mike, accompanied by a buddy who feared Mike was out of his mind, went into contested territory to look for Ben's body.

On his first visit to Japan after the war, Mike was a guest at a banquet in Hiroshima when he was asked what Japanese Americans thought of the nuclear bombing. His book tells of the delicate way he handled the response.

Masaoka relates in considerable detail the drama, and his role in the drama, that led to Congress overriding President Truman's veto of the immigration and naturalization bill that gave citizenship to the Issei. He takes readers behind the scenes in many other legislative battles that made history.

Many of the close friends and associates of Masaoka's glory days are gone and memories of some momentous activity are dimming. It became Masaoka's duty to write his personal story for posterity, and I am pleased to have had a part in the effort.

period. The section would require the United States government departments and agencies to review applications of Japanese Americans who had been interned, for full restitution of the positions, status, or entitlement with liberality, that they had enjoyed. The section would direct the departments and agencies to give full consideration to the historical findings of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians as well as the findings of this Act.

Trust Fund

Section 204(a) would establish a Civil Liberties Public Education Fund. The U.S. Treasury Department would keep and administer the fund. Amounts in the Fund would be invested in accordance with section 9702, Title 31, United States Code, and would be disbursed only by the Attorney General under provisions of section 205, and by the Board of Directors under section 206. For the purposes of the Fund, see the description below of Section 206(b).

Section 204(b) would authorize \$1,300,000,000 to be appropriated to the Fund in several diminishing steps. \$500,000,000 would be appropriated for Fiscal Year 1989, \$400,000,000 for FY 1990, \$200,000,000 for FY 1991, \$100,000,000 for FY 1992, and the remaining \$100,000,000 for FY 1993.

Letters

Search Is Successful!

Recently, I placed an ad in your publication seeking the whereabouts of the Nishikawa family who had lived on Cedar Street in Inglewood prior to relocation.

I just wanted you to know that I have been in touch with Mrs. Haru Nozaki (formerly Ruth Nishikawa). She learned of my ad from a cousin of hers who lives in Colorado and saw it! I was also contacted by a former classmate—Mrs. Mary Yama Kojima of Culver City. She had seen the ad and contacted people up in her area and she also located the Nishikawa family. Ruth Nishikawa Nozaki lives in the View Park area of L.A. as does her brother, Ken. Her sister, Mary, lives in Chicago.

I thought you might like to know that your ad made my quest very easy! I'm just sorry that I didn't try

to locate the family years ago. I thought it would be like looking for a needle in a haystack!

Thanks for your prominent display of my ad.

SHIRLEY L. MILLER
Santee, California

"In search of" letters must state whether or not the Pacific Citizen is authorized to print the sender's address.

NAKANISHI

Continued from page 1

stated Russell Leong, editor of *Amerasia Journal*, a publication of the UCLA Asian American Studies department. Leong said this in reference to the controversy generated by the reduction in the admissions of Asian American undergraduates in the nine-campus University of California system.

Leong also noted that Nakanishi

has a national reputation for research and professional work on admissions, as well as his many activities for minority and disadvantaged students. Locally, Nakanishi has been highly visible for over a decade as the chairman of Yale University's admissions group in Southern California. Because of his efforts, it has been said that over half of the students that Yale admits from the area are minorities. "There is no one who understands admissions like Dr. Nakanishi," said Leong.

Dick Osumi, a member of the coalition and the Japanese American Bar Association, stated: "To support this outstanding scholar and community leader, Asian and Pacific Americans must act now: for the survival of faculty and students and ethnic studies at UCLA. It is simply appalling that UCLA does not recognize Dr. Nakanishi's impeccable Yale-Harvard credentials and his

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The End Is Long Overdue for Debates

Following are excerpts from the editorial piece of the Oct. 17 issue of the Omaha World-Herald.

The U.S. House of Representatives reopened old wounds when it voted to establish a trust fund for survivors of the camps in which 120,000 West Coast residents of Japanese ancestry were held during part of WW2.

As letters published in this and other newspapers in the past few weeks have indicated, not all Americans agree with the idea.

Congressmen and senators shouldn't be surprised if they receive angry letters from constituents who remember the fear that spread across the country after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

No one in the early months of 1942 knew what the Japanese Empire would do next. An invasion of the West Coast couldn't be ruled out. Japanese forces were already on the move elsewhere around the Pacific Rim. The emperor had declared that Americans of Japanese descent remained Japanese citizens.

Under those circumstances, the U.S. government couldn't reasonably ignore the implications of having a substantial community of Japanese American citizens and immigrants on the West Coast.

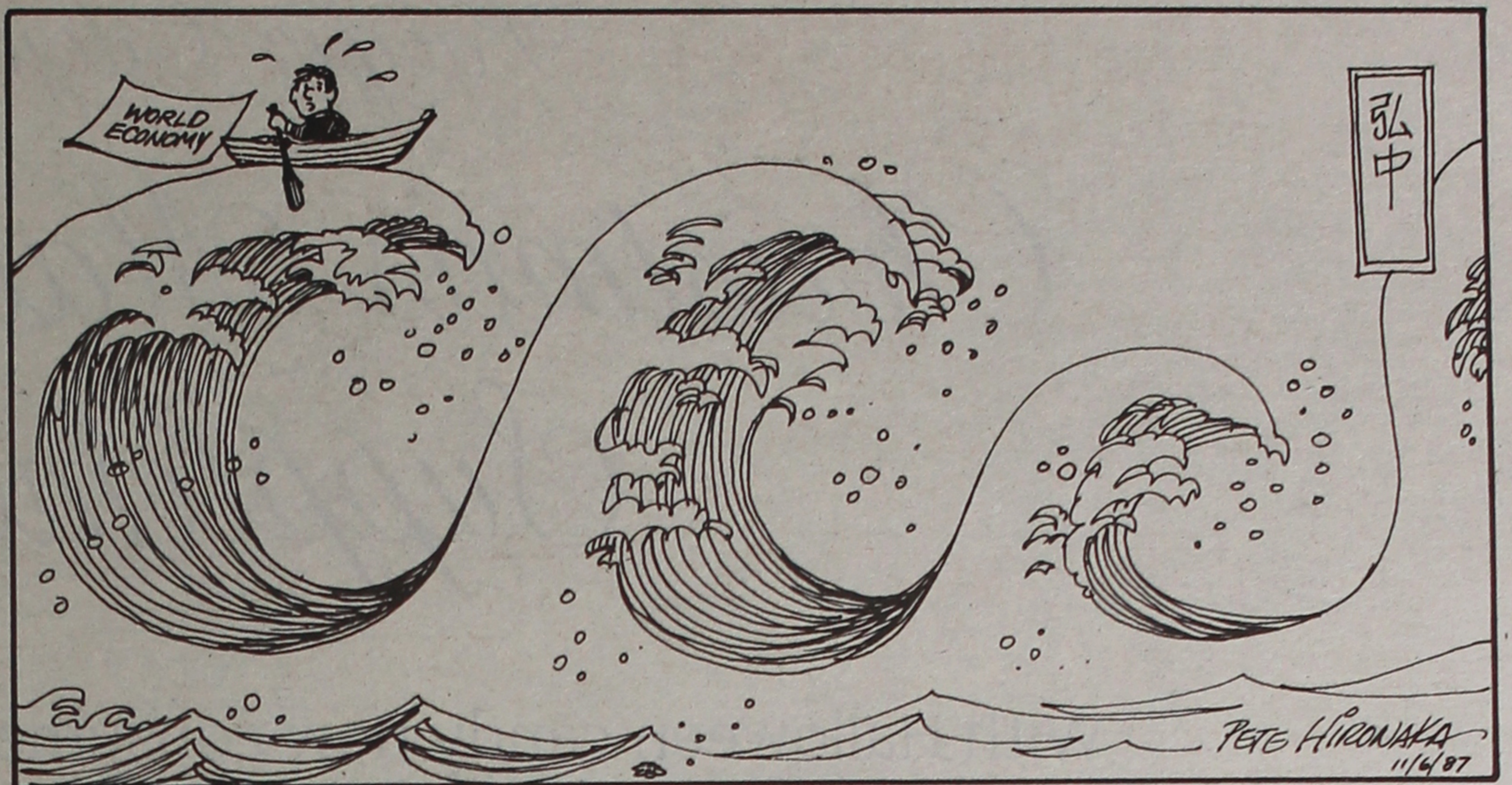
True, no evidence has been presented that supports the idea that the Japanese Americans would have turned to espionage and sabot-

age to help Japan. But that wasn't the main question Roosevelt had to ask himself when his advisers recommended placing them in custody. The president had to ask himself whether the government could afford to risk ignoring the recommendation. He decided to proceed. Congress approved. Eventually, the Supreme Court upheld the plan.

The survivors have rebuilt their lives, becoming some of the nation's more productive citizens. The apology issued by President Ford in 1976 would have been a logical point at which to lay the matter to rest.

But it wasn't laid to rest. It dragged on, first with the appointment of a commission to study the possibility of further action and now with a bill to hand out \$20,000 checks to the survivors. Some other Americans who lost loved ones or who were permanently disabled in the war have asked whether, they, too, aren't entitled to a reparations check from the Treasury. The answer, of course, is no.

The government did a lot of things during WW2 that seem difficult to justify in terms of the easy-going peacetime standards today. It censored mail and war correspondents. It imposed production quotas and rationing. These things can't—and in some cases shouldn't—be undone by a generation that has neither a firsthand memory of the war nor a direct understanding of the decisions that went into fighting it.



War Internments Can't Be Justified

Following are excerpts from a rebuttal of the Omaha World-Herald editorial. The response, which appeared in the Oct. 24 issue of the World-Herald was written by Raymond Takashi Swenson. Swenson, an attorney living in Omaha, is the son of Robert and Fumie Swenson. They are members of the JACL chapter in Salt Lake City.

By Raymond Takashi Swenson

The World-Herald editorial of Oct. 17 is perpetuating racial discrimination by attempting to use historically invalidated arguments to justify the summary denial of civil rights that the federal government perpetrated against nearly 100,000 Japanese American citizens: men, women and children.

President Roosevelt was not justified in imprisoning innocent people without trial because of his fear they would assist a Japanese invasion.

First, not a single Japanese American was ever shown to be an agent of the empire of Japan. By Dec. 1941, the FBI had already conducted extensive investigations clearing most Japanese Americans from any suspicion whatsoever.

Second, not just able-bodied men, but women, the aged and the smallest children were also placed in literal animal barns. Where was the threat from these people?

Third, by the time the internment order was issued in late 1942, the Battle of Midway had decimated the Japanese navy and made the threat of imminent invasion wholly impos-

sible. As the war progressed through 1943 and 1944, with one hard-fought American victory after another, the justification for the unlawful detention of American citizens became more and more tenuous—yet they were not released.

Indeed, many of the able-bodied young men who were supposed to be the greatest threat to America's security were enlisted to serve in the European theater as the most decorated—and most wounded—unit of the war, while thousands of others worked as intelligence gatherers and interpreters in the Pacific theater. All this, while their sisters and mothers remained in confinement because they were "dangerous."

Fourth, no American citizens of German or Italian ancestry were interned, even though Nazi sympathizers had been very active before the declaration of war. German submarines were operating just off the East Coast, but Dwight Eisenhower was not imprisoned even though he happened to have distant cousins in the enemy camp.

Fifth, there were many thousands of Japanese Americans in Hawaii, the keystone of America's military defense against Japan and site of the first attack—yet these people, who had direct access to Pearl Harbor and Hickam Air Force Base, were never imprisoned! In fact, their labor was essential to the war effort. How can the distinction be justified?

Trying to justify this trampling on

personal dignity by citing the Supreme Court decisions of the time ignores the fact that the court relied on these false representations of "military necessity" by the Roosevelt Administration. It was another decade before the court began to reverse America's institutionalized and Supreme Court-approved racial discrimination laws.

All the sacrifices made by other Americans during the war were also made by these Japanese American citizens. But no other Americans were so mistreated by their own government. The total denial of freedom, of property, of human dignity; the destruction of family life as masses of people were huddled together in barracks without privacy; and, worst of all, the undeserved accusation of disloyalty—these were not endured by other Americans.

Honorable men and women may differ on whether and in what amounts compensation should be paid today. I have no stake in it: My Japanese mother, as a teen-ager, was bombed by B-29s made here in Omaha, but that was a simple result of the war against the military government of Japan.

The most important objective is to declare the truth, over and over, that racial discrimination can never be justified, by any circumstance, even war. To hold otherwise is to endorse the Afrikaner suppression of blacks in South Africa. If our civil rights are of no worth in times of public stress, they are fragile indeed.

Missing Deadlines

The congressional adjournment for the first session of the 100th Congress was set last month at Nov. 21. With all the major issues to be resolved by Congress, the later date for adjournment eases the deadline pressure.

At the forefront are the nomination and confirmation for the Supreme Court vacancy and the resolution to the fall of the stock market with its impact on this country's economy and the budget deficit. Additionally, a stopgap bill to keep the government operational through Dec. 16 has to be passed since the present funding expires this week.

The date for the vote on S. 1009 has not been decided as of this writing. With a very tight schedule for Congress, Sen. Matsunaga still does want his bill to go to the floor of the Senate for a vote.

Grassroots Lobbying Continues

The Washington office of JACL-LEC is pleased to note that many redress supporters are not sitting back and are continuing their lobbying work with the senators and with the White House. We thank Isabel Oshiro of the Diablo Chapter, and John and Eiko Sugihara of the Contra Costa Chapter for sending us copies of the letter which they received from John R. Bolton, assistant attorney general, in response to their letter to President Reagan. It remains to be seen if any of the writers of letters to the president will receive a response from him. When that happens, we would like to receive a copy.

Right now, the effort to reach the president on redress is undertaken from many directions, such as through his staff and Republican leaders from the House and Senate, plus governors, and long-time Republicans who have been active with the party and who are known to the president. The Republican constituent letters are most important. Fred Hirasuna of Fresno has written a very strong letter to the president asking for his support.

Lisa Archer, redress coordinator for the Detroit JACL, reports that over 1,400 letters are going out from the chapter to the president. Steve Nakaji, 85 years strong, from the San

LEC
UPDATE

Grayce
Uyehara



Jose Chapter, has personally taken responsibility for several hundred letters to senators and to the president.

Hank Tanaka, Midwest Redress coordinator, and Bill Yoshino, Midwest JACL regional director, have organized the nine chapters for the coordinated White House push as soon as the Senate bill is passed. The plan has been discussed and disseminated at the most recent district council meeting. Keeping the momentum on redress lobbying falls on the district coordinators since the Washington office is not able to keep in touch on a weekly basis with the individuals who have taken responsibility for getting the legislative action in motion when the decision is made.

On Nov. 4, at the Smithsonian Museum of American History, the NBC Today Show came to Washington to tape a program about the exhibit, "A More Perfect Union: Japanese Americans and the U.S. Constitution." The program was originally planned as a group discussion. Instead of the two camera crews, there was only one available due to labor problems, and the format was changed to individual interviews. The three who participated in the taping were Mary Tsukamoto of Florin, Calif., Rep. Norman Mineta and Grayce Uyehara. The program is to be shown sometime during the week of Nov. 15.

From Philadelphia, a crew from Channel 10 came to cover the Smithsonian exhibit and besides the assistant curator, Grayce Uyehara was on camera to discuss the exhibit and its implications. Portions of the Saturday evening show, "The People," were taped in Philadelphia. Interviewed were William

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ETHNIC PRESS

Continued from page 3

to keep things together."

Nikkei Newspapers

Harry Honda, general manager of the Pacific Citizen, said the future of his paper is tied to that of its publisher, the Japanese American Citizens League.

"So long as problems facing the Asian community exist, JACL will continue," he said. "And as long as JACL continues, the Pacific Citizen will be a vital role as far as the organization is concerned. It's not like a commercial venture that's trying to make a buck."

Chris Komai, English editor of the *Rafu Shimpo*, a bilingual daily in Los Angeles, said that because problems that the Nikkei community has faced in the past decades "aren't as day-to-day as they once were," his paper has gone back to what it was in the 1900s, where people read our newspaper to find out who's getting married, who's having babies, and who's graduating. . . . In the Japanese community there is a feeling of well-being, there is a feeling of prosperity."

But, he continued, "There is also . . . that underlying tension which doesn't always surface itself. It surfaces itself in things like what happened to Vincent Chin in Detroit, it surfaces itself in the fact that so

many people point at you if they're mad at Japan for the trade imbalance. These are the kinds of issues now that we're beginning to deal with at the *Rafu* and a lot of the other ethnic papers. . . .

"What I see for the future is that we have a dichotomy, because everybody feels pretty good about themselves—they're driving BMWs, they're all CPAs now. . . .

"(But) a lot of civility is only a surface veneer which could come off as easily as anything else by one incident, and we could go back to where we were."

Komai said his paper is trying to be alert, trying to let people not forget what our history is, because it's very important to us. I think also what people tend to lose when they become mainstream is . . . what values were of their parents and grandparents. And that's what we're trying not to (let) happen."

Gaps in the Community

Serena Chen, a writer for *East West*, a bilingual newspaper based in San Francisco's Chinatown, said her paper is "going through hard times. . . because the ethnic papers have to redefine who they are. Just as we are different than we were 20 years ago, so are the needs of what you want to read about."

Those who put down *Rice* magazine for being "too glitzy" or "too glossy," she said, "have this

thing about wanting to be critical and serious about everything, and you lose your sense of humor and your sense of who Asian Americans are. So people should really look at the whole picture and not try to compartmentalize what the issues are."

Chen also called on Asian Americans who work in the mainstream media to change their attitude about those who work in the ethnic media. "We are looked at being subjective journalists, or looked at as being hacks, or looked at as not being as professional as the people who have made it in the mainstream. And they wonder why you haven't made it in the mainstream, why are you still writing for this ethnic paper? . . .

"People should realize that there's a choice that people have made, that they want to be in ethnic media," she said, adding half-jokingly, "They want to be poor. But they want to believe in themselves, too."

K.W. Lee, a reporter for the *Sacramento Union* and a native of Korea, spoke of the gap between those who publish in English and those who publish in the various Asian languages.

While he felt "great pride and joy" to see more Asians working in the mainstream press, he was also "troubled because I'd like to see that they do not forget their mother cul-

Continued on page 8

Pacific Citizen's
 Christmas Mail-Order
 Supplement

With Halloween candy now consumed and costumes safely put away for next year, or in most cases, tossed into the local garbage can, that means only one thing: Thanksgiving is right around the corner. And then before you know it, turkey, rice, gravy and stuffing will soon give way to mistletoe and flocking . . . yup, another Christmas will soon be upon us.

To help ease the burden of finding that *something* special for that *someone* special we've put together our special Mail-Order Christmas Supplement.

Remember, order early. Or before you know it, you'll be toasting in the New Year.

The advertisers . . .

HAWAII STYLE SUSHI

NANCY Sakamoto, in addition to a full-time teaching position at Kapiolani Community College, is an instructor of sushi, tsukemono, and general cooking classes at Moiliili Community Center in Honolulu, Hawaii. She is a partner in Sushi Press 8, a company that manufactures an elegant sushi mold made of clear acrylic that anyone can use to make perfect makisushi from the very start, resulting in no-fail sushi, perfectly filled center, with no wasted ends.

Elaine Suzuki, co-author and friend of over 25 years, is a Maui school secretary, and an excellent cook and baker.

Hawaii Style Sushi and Other Local Favorites is a collection of sushi recipes and other potluck-style recipes that are from Sakamoto's and Suzuki's personal files and the files of relatives and friends. All recipes have been tested and the book is now in its third printing. **Hawaii Style Sushi** is a MUST for cookbook collectors and for everyone who enjoys easy-to-prepare, delicious food without monosodium glutamate. Over 300 recipes and easy-to-understand line drawings are contained within the 250-page recipe book. □

VIDEO ACTION

VIDEO ACTION was established in 1981 to meet the demand for Japanese video programming in the United States and to bring back the older, classic Japanese movies to the American public.

Video Action currently has a catalog of five of their own titles featuring their newest release, *Zatoichi Meets Yojimbo*, and includes the award-winning releases *Sandakan No. 8* (Academy Award nominee "Best Foreign Film" and Berlin Film Festival "Silver Bear Award" winner), and *Rikisha-man* (Venice Film Festival "Grand Prix Award" winner).

Video Action is constantly adding new names to their mailing list to help keep their customers informed of the increased availability of Japanese films on video cassettes. If you would like further information, write or call Gregg Yokoyama at Video Action. □

NJAHS

THE National Japanese American Historical Society (NJAHS) was founded in 1980 as Go For Broke, Inc., to produce an exhibit on the military exploits of Nisei soldiers during World War II.

Due to the expanding scope of the exhibit subjects to include the total history of the Japanese American experience, and to reflect this broad purpose, the organization changed its name. It is headquartered in San Francisco.

NJAHS's 12 sets of traveling exhibits have been at more than 60 locations throughout the country and seen by more than 3½ million visitors.

NJAHS was selected by the Smithsonian Institution as a principal Japanese American organization to provide assistance in their production of the Japanese American exhibit to commemorate the bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution. □

NEW MEXICO JACL CHAPTER

TRADITIONAL Japanese, Mexican, and all-American recipes are included in this 250-recipe cookbook. The compilation of recipe favorites was assembled by 17 women of the Arts and Crafts Club of the **New Mexico JACL Chapter**. Friends, relatives, and members contributed the recipes. Book sales will benefit the chapter's building fund. □

NICHI BEI BUSSAN

NICHI Bei Bussan stores (located in San Jose and San Francisco) sell a myriad of Japanese dry goods such as kimonos and fabrics, but it is their T-shirt designs for which they are most widely known. **Nichi Bei Bussan** has popularized such themes as *Hakujin Desu*, *Gaijin Desu*, *Sushi*, and *Chibi-Chan*. □



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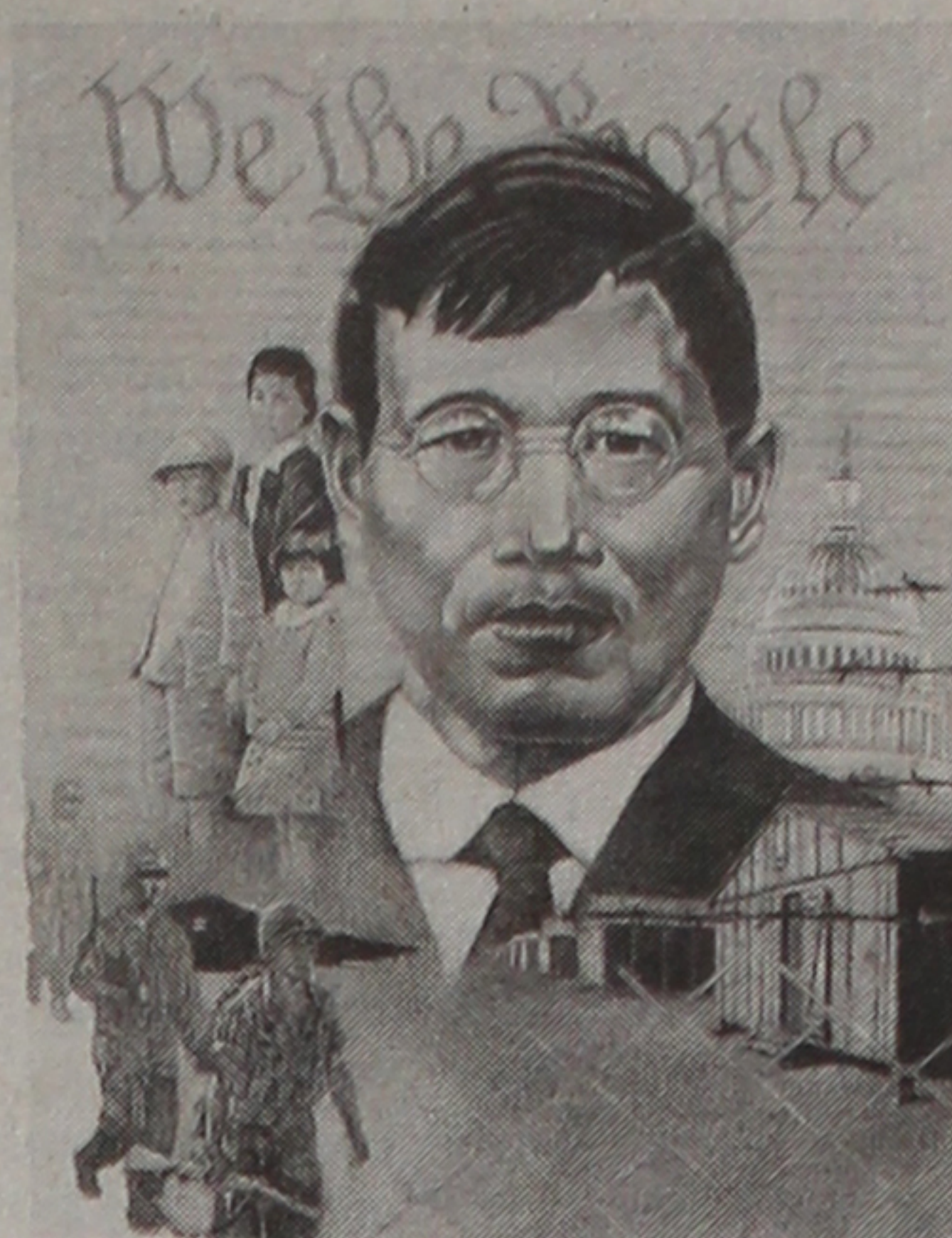


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Mail to: New Mexico JACL Chapter, c/o May Tokuda, Arts & Crafts Club, 3008 Marble NE, Albuquerque, NM 87106. Please allow 2-4 weeks delivery.



AMERICANS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY AND THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

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LITTLE TOKYO

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ETHNIC PRESS

Continued from page 5

ture, their language."

"Native-language newspapers, I think, provide a very critical function," he said. "I'd like to see these two forces merge and find mutually supportive roles. . . . It's dangerous to be judgmental. We have to accept each other. . . . otherwise, we'll divide into small groups."

Future Finances

Wong of *Rice* magazine said that ads are "very difficult to sell" to mainstream companies, but that the idea of an Asian American market "is something they are slowly becoming educated to, and I think the timing happens to be very good . . .

In time we're going to see a big transition of national advertisers saying, 'Hey, we have to take these people seriously.'"

Because the magazine is "a very, very expensive venture," he said, "I don't feel that I've sold my own magazine out, although I've had to look at outside resources to be able to continue with the type of publication I want to do, and unfortunately it had to be brought through Caucasian money." In the future, he added, "We hope that the Asian community supports us."

Komai said he felt secure about the future of the *Rafu*. "The Japanese are coming at a steady rate, a lot of Japanese want to come to the

U.S., they come to L.A. mostly, and it keeps us going. That's why, as our future goes, we're looking pretty good. Our circulation is probably as large as it's ever been . . .

"The only question we have is whether we're going to be able to retain (as readers) the third, fourth, fifth-generation people who speak English."

Chen of *East/West* agreed that "language papers for ethnic groups will exist as long as the ethnic groups exist."

"But as far as the English-language press for Asian Americans," she went on, "I think the responsibility of that press is to help define and create what is an Asian American . . . giving people a commonality of experience."

Retention of Staff

The panelists agreed that for the foreseeable future, the ethnic press will not attract staff members who are looking for financial rewards.

Chew said that the *International Examiner* has many writers, but only four people who actually get paid, including "somebody who works full-time but gets paid half-time."

"A lot of people who contribute to our paper are contributing because of the fact that they get a chance to learn more about their history or their culture or their community, and that's important to people," he said, while others are "developing a portfolio of background stories that they've done

(and) don't really have any other place to go."

Lee recalled that in the case of *Koreatown*, an English-language paper that he helped start, "our labor was all free."

Komai said of his work at the *Rafu*, "It's gratifying to me when I put out the newspaper and somebody calls me up and says, 'I'm glad you wrote that' . . .

Our most popular issue is our graduation issue, which is just names of people who graduated. But grandmothers all over Los Angeles are grateful to us . . .

"When you realize that you're doing something that nobody else would do, that the *L.A. Times* would never do for these people, then you get a sense of 'I'm finally making a difference.' . . . You have to find a lot of people like that if you want to hold on to them."

Gil Roy Gorre, editor of the Los Angeles-based *Philippine American News* and moderator of the panel, remarked, "As a journalist, I'm happy to see people go, because it's most often for better things. . . . But as a manager, I love these idealistic young guys who come to my office and say 'Okay, exploit me.' And I do so."

The ethnic press, he said, "runs on a lot of idealism, a lot of dedication and hard work — and in many cases, just those."

—From the Hokubei Mainichi.



Rose Matsui Ochi



Theresa Harumi Kawase

- **Rose Matsui Ochi**, executive assistant to Los Angeles Mayor **Tom Bradley** and director of the Office of Criminal Justice Planning, was elected to the United Way corporate board of directors. She is a graduate of both UCLA and Loyola Law School and has been active in a number of community and political organizations, including JACL.
- **Michael Mitoma** was recently elected president of the Japanese American Democratic Club of Los Angeles, replacing **George Kodama**. Mitoma is founder and chief executive officer the Carson Business Bank, and a Carson city councilman. Assisting in the JAD 1988 cabinet are VP **Midori Watanabe Kamei**, Treasurer **Donna Osugi** and Secretary **Christine Ohama**.
- **H. Dick Yamashita**, a native of North Hollywood, Calif., was named

president of the IDG Communications/Japan. He received his B.A. from University of the Pacific, Stockton. IDG Communications is a leading publisher of computer-related newspapers and magazines.

- **Theresa Harumi Kawase** was crowned homecoming queen of California State University at Fullerton on Oct. 17. She is a senior majoring in communications/advertising with a minor in speech communications and is president of her sorority. She is daughter of **Frank and Joan Kawase**. Her father was a president of Selanoco JACL.
- **Masao Kon**, a Freemason of Ann Arbor, Mich., was announced as the recipient of one of the Meritorious Service Awards from the Grand Chapter. He will be honored with a dinner and reception at the Ann Arbor Masonic Temple.

Nikkei Elected to School Board

LOS ANGELES — Newcomers Audrey Yamagata Noji and Robert I. Watanabe were victorious in their bids for school board positions, while incumbents Buddy Takata and Willard Yamaguchi retained their positions in Southern California school board elections, held Nov. 3.

Audrey Noji, 35, was one of 10 candidates running for three seats on the board of the Santa Ana Unified School District in Orange County. She is also the first Asian American to serve on the school board. Although she was considered the "dark horse" candidate, Noji managed to garner a total of 2,346 votes, the second highest amount in the race. According to Noji, her district is 95 percent minority and 15 percent Asian, many immigrants from

Indochina.

In the Bonita Unified School District in San Dimas, 39-year old Robert Watanabe received 2,235 votes in his bid for one of the three board seats, a race where two of the three incumbents were eliminated. Watanabe, a father of three, brings expertise gained as principal of Sunkist Elementary School in Puente to his new position.

Meanwhile, Hawthorne School District, Buddy Takata, a 10-year incumbent, retained his seat. He described the election as one of his "most serious challenges."

Willard Yamaguchi was re-elected to the to the school board in the Montebello district. He is currently attending law school and working as a law clerk at Suzuki and Ito.

Pana-Sc Getting Ready for Fifth Convention in '89

LOS ANGELES—The fifth biennial Pan American Nikkei Assn. convention will be held in 1989—the first time it is being held in the U.S. after the first four were hosted in the Latin American countries.

Opinions and comments will be welcome at the PANAS-SC general meeting on Friday, Nov. 13, 6:30 p.m., at New Otani Hotel's Four Seasons Room. Dinner at 7 p.m. will be \$30 per person. RSVP:

PANA-SC, 244 S. San Pedro St., Rm. 504, Los Angeles, CA 90012, (213) 626-6039.

Reno Locale for Vets '88 Reunion

RENO, Nev.—Figured to be one that Nisei veterans will enjoy and remember as one of the best is the next National AJA Veterans Reunion at Bally's June 8-12 next year, according to reunion chair Wilson Makabe.

The reunion package featuring dinner show, welcome banquet, Sayonara dinner-dance and registration is \$126 per person. Advance registration forms and details are available from Makabe, 4165 Hackamore Dr., Reno, NV 89505, (702) 747-1302.

Hotel rooms at \$68 reunion rates can be made directly: (800) 648-5080.

JACL Chapter Honors Schaar

A moving memorial service honoring Ruby Yoshino Schaar was held on Oct. 23, 1987 at the Universalist Church in New York City with close friends and former students of Mrs. Schaar in attendance as well as participating in the evening's program.

Officiating and conducting the service was Ronald Inouye, long-time friend and a past president of the New York JACL Chapter. Participants in the service were Jennifer Wada, flutist; Bryce Inouye, pianist; and Theresa Panzarino, vocalist and former student, who each provided musical selections. During the prelude and postlude, Hisayo Asai played some of Ruby's favored piano pieces.

Lillian Kimura, current president of the New York JACL Chapter, gave a brief biography of Ruby's life and community involvements. Tom Kometani, past president of the New York Chapter and current governor

City and the professional success she enjoyed as a concert singer which evolved in later years into a career as a vocal instructor of many very successful stars of stage and screen.

Arrangements for the service were co-chaired by Haruko Brown and Tami Ogata with assistance from Ron Inouye, Michi Nakagama and Sumi Koide.

In keeping with her family's wish, any contributions in her memory should be directed to JACL, New York Chapter and designated for the Ruby Yoshino Schaar Playwright Award Fund and mailed to 7 West 44th St., New York, N.Y. 10036. of the Eastern District Council of JACL paid special tribute to Ruby as the executive director for the chapter as well as her special public relations role for the National JACL. Robert McCoun, a close friend and former student provided insights into her life in New York

Los Angeles Is Locale

Prewar Florin Area Reunion Slated

LOS ANGELES — The Florin-area Japanese community, which was uprooted and dispatched into four different relocation camps, is holding a nostalgic, 3-day reunion of fun and festivity next year (Oct. 7-9, 1988) at the Buena Park Hotel, near Knotts Berry Farm and Disneyland. A block of rooms at special rates are available for out-of-town guests as a vacation package. A golf tournament at the Green River Golf Course is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 7.


For details, pre-war Florin-area residents are urged to contact

James Kawaguchi, 717 N. Robinson St., Los Angeles, CA 90026 (213 661-9220); Sam Nakano, 2600 Stoner Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90064 (213 477-6234); Richard Ochiai, 13672 Currie Circle, Santa Ana, CA 92705 (714 544-0647) or Cedrick Shimo, 2711 S. Genesee Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90016 (213 781-4083).

The tragedy of Florin is the subject matter of the just released book, "We the People, A Story of Internment in America," by Mary Tsukamoto and Elizabeth Pinkerton.

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FAREWELL HANDSHAKE—Los Angeles Supervisor Kenneth Hahn (center) congratulates departing Consul General of Japan Taizo Watanabe (right) on his recent appointment to the position of Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary for the Embassy of Japan in Washington, D.C. Also offering congratulations is Mas Fukai (right), chief deputy to Hahn. Watanabe will assume his new duties on Nov. 23.

JAD Announces Its '88 Cabinet

LOS ANGELES — George Kodama, outgoing president of the Japanese American Democratic Club of Los Angeles (JAD), has announced JAD's 1988 cabinet headed by Michael I. Mitoma, president, and assisted by Midori Watanabe Kamei, vice president, Donna Osugi, treasurer, and Christine Ohama, secretary.

Mitoma, founder and chief executive officer of the Carson Business Bank, is also a Carson city councilman and active with the East Los Angeles chapter of JACL.

JAD board members are Norman Arikawa, Fred Fujioka, Leslie Furukawa, Warren Furutani, Les

Hasaki, Irene Hirano, Calrence Hiura, Thomas Ino, Mitsuo Inouye, George Kodama, Eileen Kurahashi, Carol Matsunaga, Amy Ming, Grace Mitsuhashi, Mary Miyashita, Carol Mochizuki, Dennis Mukai, George Nakano, Candace Ochi, Rose Ochi, Ronald Ohata, John Saito, Paul Suzuki, Takeo Taiyoshi, Carl Tamaki, Kaz Umemoto, Willard Yamaguchi, Michael Yamaki and Toshiko Yoshida.

JAD, which held its informal installation dinner Nov. 12 at the 385 North Restaurant, is a club dedicated to expanding Japanese American participation in the political process.

DEADLINES

Continued from page 5

Marutani and Sumi Kobayashi, Pennsylvania redress coordinator.

In the Sunday magazine section of the *Washington Post*, (Nov. 8), a feature article by Donna Rise Omata of Millersville, Md., was printed. The article, "The Desert in Bloom — Art From the Japanese American Internment," told the story of the evacuation and incarceration of 120,000 American citizens and resident aliens through art work done by those artists who spent time in the American-style concentration camps. The visual presentation makes strong and sensitive points and opens the Smithsonian exhibit to those who have not seen it.

The Simple Truth of Life

Last Sunday, at the West Chester First Presbyterian Church, our minister made a statement which should give us all strength to keep up our fight to petition our government for redress. "One door is closed. But if we look around, another door is open." Redress requires that ability from each one of us in order to find answers to our problems and to what we perceive as roadblocks to reach our goal.

For the Record

Scott Kurashige, a JACL National Scholarship Program award winner, received the Kenji Kasai Memorial Scholarship, not the California First Bank Award. Both honors present the same monetary award. (See Sept. 25 issue of P.C.)

Song Sings Jesse's Tune

LOS ANGELES — Art Song, who made an impressive bid this spring for the Los Angeles City Council, has announced his official endorsement of the presidential campaign of Jesse Jackson, the Democratic front-runner.

"Jesse Jackson is definitely the most attractive candidate, not only for Asian-Americans, but for all Americans," stated Song in a recent interview at his Wilshire Boulevard legal offices. "This isn't the 1984 campaign. I'm talking about the 1988 race and the perception is much different."

"Jesse Jackson is the Democratic front-runner," he said. "Those who try to deny it should stop kidding themselves. They better start thinking about Jesse Jackson winning in '88, not just trying to get his planks across as in '84."

Song impressed many local and national politicians with his recent campaign and strong fund-raising ability, which caused his endorsement to be widely sought. Despite strong overtures, especially from the other major campaigns, there was never any doubt in Song's mind; he's strongly committed to the front-runner Jackson.

"There is no comparison," said Song. "Jesse is my candidate. Just look at his personal characteristics, his concerns for humanity. Jesse has been talking about farmers, minorities and the social issues for years. He's no flash in the pan."

"As far as Asian-American issues are concerned, Jesse Jackson is the Asian-American candidate," he continued. "Jesse Jackson was the only presidential candidate in '84 who supported redress and reparations for Japanese-Americans. Jesse was instrumental in bringing the issue of democracy in South Korea to light. And he spoke out years ago about the injustices of the Marcos regime."

"Jesse Jackson is the only one speaking up against Japan-bashing, Korea-bashing and Asia-bashing," he said. "He's very strong on education, economics, foreign policy and peace issues."

Song, a third-generation Korean-American, who grew up in Los Angeles' Westside community during the Fifties and Sixties, realizes the political stereotype exists that Asians don't vote.

"The stereotype exists," he said. "But just look at my campaign. The voter registration, the community support and the generous fund-raising showed that Asian-Americans can make a difference."

"And with their votes, their volunteerism, their pocketbooks and their voice, Asian-Americans will make a difference for Jesse Jackson in 1988."

NAKANISHI

Continued from page 4

enormous contributions to research, teaching and community service on Asian Americans."

The coalition is asking concerned groups and individuals to contribute to a legal defense fund on behalf of Dr. Nakanishi. The fund will be administered by the Asian Pacific Legal and Educational Defense Fund. Grievances and lawsuits are costly. Any surplus funds will be used to assist in other racial discrimination cases involving Asian Pacific Americans. The address for the Don Nakanishi Legal Defense Fund is: Asian Pacific Legal Defense Fund, c/o JACL, 244 S. San Pedro St., no. 507, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

The coalition would like concerned individuals and groups to also write to Chancellor Charles Young at Murphy Hall, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA 90024, to express their support of permanent faculty status for Don Nakanishi.

Janss Corp Gets Bid Showa Village Plan Approved

LOS ANGELES — The Showa Village project, submitted by the Janss Corporation, widely known as the developer of Westwood and the sprawling campus of UCLA over 60 years ago, has been recommended for the First Street North development, bounded by North San Pedro, Temple and Alameda Streets in Little Tokyo.

The Little Tokyo Community Development Advisory Committee (LTCDAC) made the selection after reviewing the four proposals presented at an open community meeting on Oct. 8, and followed by another LTCDAC meeting on Oct. 14, when about 25 members spent half-a-day evaluating the proposals.

The Janss proposal was favored because it was termed most "friendly" to Little Tokyo while still respecting the First Street North orientation to the Civic Center.

Furthermore, the large number of housing units including a definitive commitment to the San Pedro Firm Building was viewed as a positive perspective.

The Temple Street location of the hotel is better than other proposed locations, according to the committee.

Finally, the personal participation of physician Dr. Janss, a fourth-

generation member of the real estate firm, in the project made an impressive and persuasive presentation acceptable to the committee.

The Barker Interests' First Street Plaza Partners proposal, which stressed mixed income housing and strong pedestrian orientation, also received high consideration for selection. Other proposals were submitted by J.H. Snyder Co. and George E. Moss.

The LTCDAC will report its evaluation and selection of the proposals to the mayor, City Council and CRA chairman, which has already recognized the significant impact the First Street North development will have on the Little Tokyo community.

The final selection of the project from the four proposals will be made by the City Administrative Officer Keith Comrie towards the end of November, it was learned.

All four proposals submitted will be in the \$300-500 million bracket.

The Showa Village, selected by LTCDAC, will be headed by the Janss Corporation and will include the firms of PeckJones, Johannes Van Tilburg & Partners, Gensler and Associates, and Uesugi Associates.

—from the *Kashu Mainichi*

The Greying of Japan

By Chizu Iiyama

Three men in dark business suits, arms full of packages, were at the door on this warm morning. They were representatives of the Hiroshima government, paying a visit to my mother-in-law (who turned 99-years-old last March) on "Respect for the Aged Day," a national holiday in Japan on Sept. 15.

After a flurry of bows, they proceeded to read congratulatory framed scrolls signed by Prime Minister Nakasone and another by Mayor Araki of Hiroshima. They brought presents: a comforter "for these cold nights," a silver cup and some money. Despite the formality, there was a warm concern not only for my mother-in-law, but also for my sister-in-law, who is primarily responsible for her care. (She also received a scroll.)

Attitude Toward the Elderly

One of the distinctive features of the Japanese is their attitude toward the aged. Almost daily on television there will be a short feature, other than a documentary, on the varied life styles of senior citizens. Their newspapers are filled with reports of the accomplishments of old people—probably the most astounding being the climb to the top of Mt. Fuji by a 101-year-old woman this past summer. News reports include items like a cooperative miso factory run totally by people over 65, recreational pursuits of the aged, like "gate ball," the opening of a nursery home for senile patients which include activity programs and rehabilitation efforts, and the like.

Longest Average Life Span

According to latest statistics, there are 13.3 million people over 65 years in Japan—10.9% of the population. (In the U.S., it's 12%.) Japan expects the number to increase to 21.34 million—16.3% of the population by the year 2000.

Japan has a system of health care that offers almost all 120 million of its people some form of public or private coverage, and has helped to give the Japanese the world's longest average life span: 80.5 years for women and 74.8 for men in 1985. It also has a flourishing for-profit medical system.

Traditionally, women have been given the role of rearing the young and caring for the elderly. Today, it often means that women in their 60s, some with health problems of their own, take care of elderly parents

who may be bedridden or ill. This poses a difficult burden on the families.

The Japanese ministry reports there are 590,000 people suffering from senile dementia, with a projection of double that figure by the year 2000. Most of them are cared for in the home.

Support Services

Japan is only now beginning to offer support services to their aged and the families. They recently opened some apartments around the nation which offer meals and social services. Urban areas like Tokyo and Osaka report people on waiting lists while in other cities like Nagoya, only 45% of such apartments are filled.

Our relatives were very interested in American programs, and we cited the luncheon, housing and recreation programs of the Japanese American Services of the East Bay and Kimochi Kai in San Francisco.

A Surprising Experience

We had a very personal experience in regard to "Respect for the Aged Day." We are in Japan primarily to celebrate my mother-in-law's 99th birthday and had to register as aliens after our 3 month passport expired. Imagine our surprise when my husband was invited to a local celebration of their senior citizens. Because we had other plans, we had to decline.

The next day, we were visited by a friendly representative of the local government, bringing a gift of money. They were honoring my husband, even though we are not citizens of Japan. And on the following day, in childish Japanese scrawl, we received invitations to an "undq kai" (sports day) from the students at the local grammar and junior high school. Such is their outreach to all older people.

With their rapidly aging population, Japan is facing some real problems. They cannot expect aging women to care for disabled parents. Younger people see care for the aged as a social problem with social solutions. Japan, with its respect for the aged, needs to come up with innovative programs to retain family concerns for the aged with social and governmental support.

Chizu Iiyama is national co-chair of the JACL Women's Concerns Committee. She is on an extended visit to Japan.

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Review

E/W Players Present 'Chorus Line'

By George Johnston

Show business . . . performing . . . becoming a star . . . glitz and glamor . . . fame and fortune. What motivates people to aspire to that way of life? What are the rewards? Why do people want it? What kind of people do it? What happens when they can't cut it? Who knows? Those questions are addressed (though not answered) in the East/West Players' production of *A Chorus Line*.

A Chorus Line, "the longest running Broadway musical ever," won the Pulitzer Prize and a 1975 Tony Award for Best Musical, and is about young dancers trying to "make the cut" for a chorus line in a Broadway play. After the initial selection, we get to know the dancers as they are interviewed by the director.

'Convincing'

The East/West Players' rendition is quite good and with only two exceptions, all of the singing, dancing and acting is well-done and convincing. Unfortunately, most of the characters are shallow, vain, superficial, confused, pathetic, immature and unlikable dreamers. Many of them don't have the right stuff to do what they want; some are trying to escape from unhappy past days; a couple are past their primes, trying for glories they never had. It's a play that could be a microcosm for the frail vanities humankind endures, except it lacks the compassion that makes the theatergoer want to have

affinity for most of the auditioners. The East/West Players deserve credit for some great acting (hopefully, they were acting).

Kudos

Bradd Wong, who played a dopey-but-affable Mike, deserves mention as the most likable and charming of the entire cast. Emily Kuroda, as Sheila, does a great worn-out nag on the verge of burned-out crone-hood. Mike Hagiwara's Bobby is a well-done portrait of an outgoing, gladhand extrovert whose smile and humor hides him from himself. Betsy Chang uses her well-toned physique and body language unabashedly to play Val, a woman who espouses a "better life through plastic surgery" philosophy. Sala Iwamatsu also gets kudos for a smoldering, defiant portrayal of Diana Morales.

There were problems with the characterizations of Zach, the director (played by Keone Young) and Cassie (played by Mimosa Iwamatsu), however. The production bogs down with the soap-opera romance between these two. Young's Zach is so self-absorbed and overwrought that one can't believe that Cassie could have ever liked such a jerk. Mimosa Iwamatsu's Cassie is supposed to have been a performer of "star-quality" just a few years ago, but doesn't feel she was or is good enough to be the main attraction. As far as Zach is con-



"A CHORUS LINE"—Performers for East West Players *A Chorus Line*. (l-r) Deborah Nishimura, Mike Hagiwara, Emily Kuroda, Ed You, Kay Yamamoto, Jason Ma, Betsy Chang, Timothy Dang, Mimosa Iwamatsu, Paul Wong, Karen Maruyama, John Norio Miyasaki, Sala Iwamatsu, Merv Maruyama, Linda Igarashi, Bradd Wong and Susan A. Nakagiri.

cerned, she still has what it takes and is too good to just be a chorus line dancer, but Iwamatsu's solo dance and endomorphic exterior make Zach's assumption incredible.

'A Lot of Talent'

The music, originally by Marvin Hamlisch, sounds good and is pro-

fessionally performed by a live band in the back of the stage. The singing, solo and ensemble, is very good. If you've always wanted to see *A Chorus Line* or want to see it again, go see the how the East/West Players treat it. You may not like the individual characters, but the perfor-

mances show, overall, a lot of talent. —*A Chorus Line runs until Nov. 29 at the East West Players, 4424 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles. Tickets for Fri. and Sat. shows are \$15, with showtime at 8 p.m. The Sun. matinee is at 2 p.m. and is \$13. For more information, call (213) 660-0366.*



TACHINOKI—Discussing the upcoming production of *Tachinoki* are Director Heidi Helen Davis, Sumi Seo and Playwright Robert Schenkkan. The play opens Nov. 12 at Ensemble Studio Theatre in Hollywood.

director Heidi Helen Davis from the inception of the piece and through its initial workshop performances earlier this year as part of EST's Western Avenue Festival. Davis, who has directed "Tachinoki" since its first performance, has a personal interest in the production because she is the daughter of a Nisei who was interned in Hunt, Idaho, during the war. Other plays she previously directed include "Eulogy" with John Randolph and Sarah Cunningham for the EST in New York and Los Angeles, and "Salt Air" and "Lou Passing Through" for the Ensemble in New York.

Previous works by Schenkkan include "Final Passages," which has been performed throughout the United States and the one-act play "The Survivalist," which was presented at the Actors' Theatre of Louisville, in New York, and at the Edinburgh Festival.

The cast of "Tachinoki" will include Diana Tanaka as Sumi Seo, Amy Hill and Jim Ishida as her parents, Darrell Kunitomi as her brother Masa, and Charles Allen-Anderson and Kate Randolph Burns playing a variety of roles.

"Tachinoki" is performed Wednesday through Saturday at 8:00 p.m. and Sunday at 3:00 p.m. Beginning the week of Nov. 16, it will be performed in rotating repertory through Jan. 15 with the EST production of "Razkazy."

Tickets for Friday and Saturday performances are \$15 for regular admission and \$10 for senior citizens and students; For Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday performances, tickets are \$12 and \$8 for seniors and students.

The Ensemble Theatre is located at 1089 N. Oxford Avenue in Hollywood. For tickets and information, call (213) 466-2916.

Former Internee Is Subject of Play

LOS ANGELES — At the age of 16, during WW2, Sumi Seo and her family were evacuated from their small farm at the end of Western Avenue in San Pedro. Their internment at the Santa Anita racetrack and later at Camp Jerome, Arkansas, is the background for Robert Schenkkan's new play "Tachinoki," which means "evacuation" in Japanese. Performances, which began Nov. 12,

opened the 1987/88 season of the Ensemble Studio Theatre (EST).

The play deals with Seo's close-knit family life before the war, the changes forced upon her by the internment, her work-release from the camp and eventual return to the Los Angeles area.

Currently a resident of Long Beach, California, Seo worked closely with the playwright and di-

Kubota Play On a Four-Week Run at the Zephyr

SAN FRANCISCO — The Asian American Theater Company continues its 15th season with the premier of Warren Sumio Kubota's "Webster Street Blues," which opens Nov. 18 at the Zephyr Theatre, 25 Van Ness Avenue, for a four-week run.

Directed by Susan Marsden, the

play tells of the relationships and angst in the lives of four young Japanese growing up in San Francisco's Japantown in the summer of 1972.

Performances are 8 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday and 3 p.m. on Sundays until December 13. No performance will take place on Nov. 26.

Tickets for the Wednesday, Thurs-

day and Sunday shows are \$13 with Friday and Saturday performances at \$15.

For tickets and group sales information, contact the Asian American Theatre company at (415) 346-8922. Reservations can be made by calling (415) 346-8922.

Museum to Screen First Animated Film from China

SAN FRANCISCO — "Monkey Makes Havoc in Heaven," the first animated film released to the West from the People's Republic of China, will be screened in the Trustee's Auditorium of the Asian Art Museum, located in Golden Gate Park, on Dec. 5 at 10:30 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Admission is free. For more information, call (415) 668-8921.

Sac'to Group Holding Concert

SACRAMENTO — Sacramento Asian Community Resources is sponsoring its third annual concern, "Just Asian American Music" (JAAM) on Nov. 21, at 7:30 p.m., at the Sacramento Buddhist Church social hall, 2401 Riverside Blvd.

Jon Jang and the 4 in one Quartet are this year's featured artists. Jang was recently described in the *San Francisco Examiner* as one of "the most imaginative pianists on the local contemporary music scene—a brilliant composer, technical master and remarkable collaborator."

Fred Houn, a baritone sax player whose credentials include work with jazz master Archie Shepp, will also be joining the quartet. Amiri Baraka, author of *Blues People*, has said, "Watch out for Fred Houn and his innovative and revolutionary approach to the music. He will be one of the new world's most important leaders."

Other performers include singer Pam Yamasaki, dancer Allana Sah and the band Keep It Comin'.

Keep It Comin', which features Kerry Kashiwagi, Victor Contreas, Fred Chow and Dan Perez, will be performing original songs that have jazz and Latin influences.

Tickets are \$10 general admission, \$8 for students in advance and \$12 at the door. They may be purchased at Sacramento Community Resources, 1904 14th Street; On Broadway Bar and Cafe; and BASS/Ticketmaster centers. To charge tickets, call (916) 395-BASS.

1987 Holiday Issue BOXSCORE

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1987 DISPLAY ADS Nov. 5: 1,942* (23.3%)

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'Irrigator' Staff to Meet in '88

WASHINGTON — For what may be a first in camp reunions, former staffers of the *Minidoka Irrigator* are being asked to attend a meeting scheduled to coincide with the 1988 National JAACL Convention in Seattle, Aug. 4 to the 11.

The weekly newspaper of the Minidoka Relocation Center in Hunt, Idaho, was widely regarded as the best of the camp newspapers. Judging by issues stored in the National Archives in Washington, D.C., the *Irrigator* began with an issue dated Sept. 10, 1942 and ended with a Vol. V, No. 22 issue dated July 28, 1945.

It was one of only two printed newspapers in the ten camps, the other paper being the *Heart Mountain Sentinel* at Heart Mountain, Wyoming.

An estimated 119 editors, reporters, business managers, photographers, artists and Japanese language translators worked on the paper, some for only a few months and others as long as three years.

Although details of the reunion have yet to be worked out, former staffers are asked to contact as soon as possible:

■ **West Coast**—Cherry Tanaka Kinoshita, 3520 S. Thistle St., Seattle, WA 98119; (206) 721-0717.

■ **Midwest**—Taka Ichikawa, 8931 Robin Drive, Des Plaines, IL 60016; (312) 298-6502.

■ **East Coast**—Mitsu Yasuda Carl, 3705 S. George Mason Drive (Apt. 1814-S), Falls Church, VA 22041; (703) 820-3774.



GOOD SCOUT—Dr. Robert Nagamoto (center), a radiation oncology specialist at Torrance Memorial Hospital Medical Center, is presented a Los Angeles County resolution acknowledging his being named Good Scout of the Year by the Boy Scouts of America. On the left is his wife Agnes and on the right is Mas Fukai, chief deputy to Los Angeles Supervisor Kenneth Hahn.

Proof of Internment May Be Needed

LOS ANGELES — If President Reagan does not veto the redress legislation now pending in the Senate, Japanese Americans and legal resident aliens interned in relocation camps during WW2 will receive \$20,000 each in compensation.

An article in the *Kashu Mainichi* notes that people may write to the National Archives in Washington, D.C. to officially establish that they were interned. It is suggested that it would be wise to do this before the redress legislation becomes law.

If the bill is signed, the archives office will probably be swamped with requests and responses may be delayed.

Former internees should send their name, birthdate, place of residence before internment and name of the camp or camps to which they were sent. The archives will send notification of the dates they were interned.

Write to: General Archives Division, Nat'l Archives and Record Service, General Services Administration, Washington, D.C. 20409.

FURUTANI

Continued from back page

Hirai-Olen, executive director at the Carson community center, is the auxiliary president.

National JAACL President Harry Kajihara administered the oath of office to the combined 60-member chapter/auxiliary board. He said the redress bill was on hold in the Senate, explained being national JAACL president is rewarding for meeting so many good people nationally, and was happy to see two candidates de-

claring so early for his office.

The JAACL silver pin was bestowed upon Bill Sakurai, while the chapter recognition awards went to Amy Nakashima and Yuki Sato for their 25 consecutive years on the chapter board.

The '88 Presidential Classroom for Young Americans scholarships were presented to Patricia Harada and Kathy Matsumoto, both of University High.

Chieko Inouye, Eiko Iwata and Ron Kumataka co-chaired the installation committee.

PECKHAM

Continued from page 3

help the Japanese Americans.

Peckham, who died in 1956 at the age of 76, was a descendant of one of San Jose's founding families. Responsible for protecting some of the city's most visible and prominent Japanese American holdings, Peck-

ham was caretaker of the Buddhist church and the homes of families such as Rep. Norman Mineta's, who resided on North Fifth Street. Peckham's watch over many Japantown buildings have prompted many to contend that his vigilance resulted in the area's very survival during the years when its stores and homes were boarded up and empty.

Vigilance

"He came by every day to check on things," said 80-year-old James Dobayashi of the market which has operated on Jackson street for 75 years. "And nothing happened to the store."

Peckham, whose nephew is Robert F. Peckham, a U.S. District Court judge in San Francisco, first became linked to civil rights causes after Chinese American residents, concentrated in an area adjacent to what's now known as Japantown, were hauled into court on gambling charges.

At first he worked on the other side, directing police during raids on Chinese-run establishments from the district attorney's office. However, when he went into private practice, the same business operators turned to him to defend them.

Since there were virtually no attorneys of Asian descent, he eventually became a popular attorney for residents of Chinese and Japanese descent, taking on the cases of farmers throughout the valley and almost anybody who needed legal help.

"He was in an unusual position during the war, because he was the only one who had taken on their cases," said his 79-year-old son Ben, a retired real estate developer.

"He ended up as caretaker of a lot of their personal properties. They didn't have anyone else."

The Calendar

DENVER

■ Apr. 7-9, 1988—The 10th annual National Association for Asian and Pacific American Education Conference, at the Radisson Hotel. Proposals are being solicited for paper, panel and workshop presentations on a wide variety of topics related to Asian and Pacific American education. Deadline for proposals: Dec. 31, 1987. Info: Siri Vongthieres, 303 866-6784 or Russell Endo, 303 443-9587.

LOS ANGELES AREA

■ Present-Nov. 29—A *Chorus Line*, presented by the East/West Players. Fri. and Sat. 8 pm show, \$15; 2 pm matinee, \$13. 4424 Santa Monica Blvd. Info: 213 660-0366.

■ Present-Dec. 12—Jude Narita's *Coming into Passion/Song for a Sansei*, 8 pm, Fri. and Sat., Fountain Theatre, 5060 Fountain Ave., Hollywood. Tickets: \$10. Info: 213 466-1767.

■ Present-Dec. 27—The contemporary paintings of Keisho Okayama and Richard Yokomi, George Doizaki Gallery, Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, 244 S. San Pedro St. Tue.-Sun.—12-5 pm; closed Mon. Free. Info: 213 628-2725.

■ Nov. 15—The 3rd Annual Japanese Speech Contest, sponsored by the Franklin D. Murphy Library of the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center (JACCC), 1 pm, 2nd floor conference rooms of the JACCC. The contest is for those who speak Japanese as a second language, with a special division for speakers of non-Japanese ancestry. Application form: JACCC, 244 S. San Pedro St., Room 505, L.A., CA 90012. Eligibility requirements and other info: Kats Kunigitsu, 213 628-2725.

■ Nov. 19—The 12th annual Korean Youth Center fundraising dinner/show, featuring pop vocalist Yong Pil Cho, at the Bonaventure Hotel. Info: U-Sang Kim, 213 383-5218 or 213 743-5480.

■ Nov. 27—"U.S. Asians," 7:30-8 pm, KSCI channel 18.

■ Dec. 5—"The Psychology of Japanese Businessmen: Out-Thinking the

Competitors," 9 am-12 pm, followed by "How to Get a Job Teaching English in Japan," 1:30-5 pm, at Santa Monica College. Presented by Naginata Associates. Info: 213 452-9214.

SACRAMENTO

■ Nov. 21—"Just Asian American Music (JAAM)," featuring Jon Jang & the 4 in 1 Quartet with special guest Fred Houn, and the Keep It Comin' Band. Sacramento Buddhist Church Social Hall, 2401 Riverside Blvd., 7:30 pm. Tickets: \$10 in advance; \$12 at the door; \$8/students; on sale at the SACR office, 1903 14th St., On Broadway Bar & Cafe and BASS ticket outlets. Info: 206 447-7971.

SALT LAKE CITY

■ Nov. 20 & 21—Ririe-Woodbury Dance Company and special guest Kei Takei, 8 pm, Capitol Theatre. Tickets: \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door and \$15 for Grand Tier; Senior/student discounts available. Info: 801 533-6494 or 801 1062.

SAN DIEGO

■ Nov. 15—Japanese Coordinating Council of San Diego's testimonial dinner for Mas Hironaka, 5:30 pm, Holiday Inn at the Embarcadero, 1355 N. Harbor Dr. Messages should be sent to Mrs. Kiyoko Ochi, 945 Nacion St., Chula Vista, CA 92011.

SEATTLE

■ Nov. 21—Nippon Kan Heritage Association present *Araki Kodo V* and *Shirane Kinuko* Bamboo Flute and Koto Concert, Nippon Kan Theatre, 628 S. Washington St., 7:30 pm. Tickets: Adults—\$7; seniors/students, \$5. Info: 206 624-8801.

■ Nov. 21—*Ayame Kai's* 6th Annual Holiday Crafts Sale to benefit Keiro Nursing Home, 10 am-4 pm, Seattle Buddhist Church, 1427 S. Main St. Info: 206 323-7100.

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JACL Chapter Pulse

CHICAGO

• Annual inaugural dinner and dance, Nov. 21, at the Westin O'Hare Hotel, 6100 River Road, Rosemont. Cocktails, 6 pm; dinner, 7 pm; dance, 9 pm. Guest Speaker: Past National JACL President Henry Tanaka. Music by Lori Engle and Friends. Tickets \$30. Reservations: May Nakano, 312 561-8944 or the Chicago JACL office, 312 728-7171.

DENVER

• "Minoru Yasui Remembered," 7 pm, Nov. 20, Simpson United Methodist Church, Arvada. Info: Bob Sakaguchi, 303 469-4337.

FRESNO

• The Central California District Council JACL mass installation banquet and convention, Nov. 21 at the Hilton Hotel in Fresno. On Nov. 20, there will be a reception for Thomas D. Crouch, chairman of Social and Cultural History, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution. Saturday highlights include a Health Fair, workshops entitled "Country Voices, the Oral History of a Japanese Farm Family," "Truth, Liberty and Justice for All: The Internment of Japanese Americans During WW2," a raffle and the banquet. Info: Contact any Central California chapter president.

GREATER LOS ANGELES SINGLES

• Annual Scholarship Fund Dance, featuring Bob Bergara's Band, Nov. 21, 7:30 pm, Japanese Cultural Institute, 16215 S. Gramercy Pl., Gardena. \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Info and Tickets: Bea Fujimoto, 213 935-8648 or Lucy

Yoshihara, 213 327-1311.

INTERMOUNTAIN DISTRICT COUNCIL

• Anniversary of the JACL Thousand Club, Nov. 21-22, Cactus Pete's Casino in Jackpot, Nev. Package Registration: \$30/ea., includes Sat. lunch, banquet & souvenir booklet. Rooms reservations: Granite Hotel—\$45-48.60/double occupancy; Horseshu Hotel—\$30/double occupancy; Granite Lodge—\$28.75/double occupancy. Room reservations should be made directly through Cactus Pete's Casino, 1-800-821-1103; please mention you are attending the JACL function. More info: Seichi Hayashida, 231 Lone Star Road, Nampa, Idaho 83651.

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.

SONOMA COUNTY

• Fifth annual "Sushi Nite," 6 pm, Nov. 21, Enmanji Memorial Hall, 1200 Gravenstein Highway So., Sebastopol. Donation: \$5.

Items publicizing JACL events should be typewritten (double-spaced) or legibly hand-printed and mailed at least **THREE WEEKS IN ADVANCE** to the P.C. office. Please include contact phone numbers, addresses, etc.

MDC Meeting Held in Cleveland

By William Yoshino

The fall meeting of the Midwest District Council (MDC) held in Cleveland, Ohio was highlighted by a discussion on the recommendations offered by the committee on election practices and procedures to the JACL National Board and the outlining of steps the MDC would utilize to aid the upcoming effort to pass the redress legislation in the Senate.

In the first of many reports given by the MDC officers, youth representative Amy Hara of St. Louis said that she would chair the Youth Council this year and that Jeff Koshi, also of St. Louis, would become chair next year. Hara stated that although most of the current activities of the council are social, the St. Louis youth group participated in writing letters to their representatives prior to the House passage of redress legislation last September. Her report also included a discussion of the JACL forensic competition which will culminate at the Seattle convention. All MDC chapters are encouraged to identify possible participants who will compete at a MDC competition in the spring.

MDC Governor John Hayashi reported on the issues from the recent JACL national board meeting. During his report, Hayashi asked Ron Yoshino to outline the various recommendations of the JACL elections practices committee. Although no formal action was taken by the district on the recommendations, the sentiment expressed indicated that the use of proxies at conventions should be eliminated or greatly curtailed. It was also indi-

cated that a clear understanding of election and credential guidelines should be followed by their rigid enforcement.

Henry Tanaka and this office reported on recent developments in the redress effort. Tanaka outlined a 10-step action plan which will be implemented when a date is set for debate on the legislation in the Senate. The plan calls for a series of actions by each chapter redress coordinator to trigger a telephone and mailgram response to each Senator. The plan will also utilize various organizations and contingencies for press response following action on the redress bill by the Senate.

This MDC meeting was the first time in recent memory where two member chapters failed to attend without notice of their absence. Those attending included Chicago—Ron Yoshino; Cincinnati—Jacqueline Vidourek and Gordon Yoshikawa; Cleveland—Henry Tanaka, Tom Nakao, Gary Yano and Mits Teraguchi; Hoosier—George Umemura; Milwaukee—Diane Aratani and April Goral; St. Louis—John Hayashi, George Sakaguchi, Amy Hara and Jodie Mitori; Twin Cities—Chris Sandberg and Tom Hara; Staff; and Bill Yoshino.

In hosting the meeting, the Cleveland chapter provided for a buffet reception and a group dinner at a local restaurant. The activities were coordinated by Suzi Nakashige and chapter president Henry Tanaka. The delegates were all pleased with the hospitality of the Cleveland JACLers and the downtown location of the meeting.

L.A. School Board's Furutani Addresses W.L.A. Installation

LOS ANGELES—Confusion is the winner over the proposed year-round calendar for L.A. city schools district-wide since there have been no public hearings, school board member Warren Furutani explained at the 1988 West Los Angeles JACL installation Nov. 1 at Trident Center.

To clear the issue, hearings will be scheduled soon to decide "what" the plan should be. Then the board can determine the "when," the first Japanese American elected to the Board of Education of the nation's second largest district explained.

Furutani said he wanted to put "at ease" the question of year-round schools, which he favors, in the minds of the 150 present at the chapter's first luncheon to swear in new officers. And as a Sansei, he recited what the Nikkei community expects of its own: Do the best you can, work as hard as you can, believe in what you do, the J.A. community lives up to always getting the job done in dignity, doing it right, and cleaning up afterwards. "This is integrity," he added. "This is what I believe."

Four years hence, when his term is up, Furutani hoped his record on behalf of the well-being of all children and parents will be self-evident, "because I will be working hard for everyone."

1988 Board Members

Jean Ushijima, city clerk at Beverly Hills, heads the 1988 board. Among the reachable goals, she declared, were membership increase, wider community service, stronger financial base and programs. Karen

Continued on page 11

Thousand Club—Two Reports

The annual 1000 Club Honor Roll, which will be published in the New Year Special, lists all active members as of Nov. 30, 1987. A number of those whose memberships expire on that date may not be listed if the contribution is received late by National JACL Headquarters.

(Year of Membership Shown)
* Century; ** Corporate; L Life;
M Memorial; C/L Century Life

Summary (Since Jan 1, 1987)

Active (previous total) 1709
Total this report: #41 12
Current total 1721

Oct 20 - Oct. 23, 1987 (12)

Chicago: 1-Hideo Tomomatsu.
Detroit: 25-James Shimoura.
Fresno: 32-Chester Oji.
Hollywood: 7-Raymond Chee*.
Livingston-Merced: 33-Eric Andow.
Puyallup Valley: 8-Thomas Shigio.
San Diego: 10-Gale Kaneshiro.
San Francisco: 26-Masanori Hongo.
Seabrook: 4-Gregory Ono.
Seattle: 19-Thomas Mukasa, 24-Kenji Okuda.
National Associate: 1-Kidder, Peabody & Co., S.F.**.

CORPORATE CLUB

1g-Kidder, Peabody & Co., S.F. (Nat)
CENTURY CLUB*
7-Raymond Chee (Hol)

Summary (Since Jan 1, 1987)

Active (previous total) 1721
Total this report: #42 30
Current total 1751

Oct 26 - Oct. 30, 1987 (30)

Berkeley: 16-Jordan Hiratzka.
Chicago: 21-Omar Kaihatsu*.
Clovis: Life-June Fujita-Yamasaki.
Detroit: 28-Wallace Kagawa.
Diablo Valley: 1-George Fujioka.
Downtown Los Angeles: Tom Taira.
Florin: 29-Bill Taketa.
Fowler: 29-Harley Nakamura.
French Camp: Life-Mitsuo Kagehiro.
Fresno: 28-Shiro Ego.
Gardena: 18-John Fujita.
Houston: 1-Daniel Watanabe.
Livingston Merced: 25-Agnes Winton, 31-Gordon Winton.
Marina: 1-Tadakazu Doy.
Monterey: 35-Minoru Uyeda.
New England: 1-Wallace Kido
Orange County: Life-Mary Nitta.
Pasadena: 37-Yoneo Deguchi, 24-Thomas Omori, 32-Mich Tsuchiyama.
Sacramento: 28-Stanley Inouye, Life-Percy Masaki.
St. Louis: Life-Kenjo Itoku.
Salt Lake City: Life-Byron Nagata.
San Francisco: 6-Yoshio Maeda.
Sequoia: 18-James Izumi.
Snake River: Life-Yosh Sakahara.
Washington, DC: Life-Diane Moriguchi.
Watsonville: 21-Kenzo Yoshida.
LIFE

T June Fujita-Yamasaki (Clo), Mitsuo Kagehiro (FrC), Mary Nitta (Ora), Percy T Masaki (Sac), Kenjo Itoku (SL), Byron Nagata (SLC), Yosh Sakahara (Sna), Diane H Moriguchi (WDC).
CENTURY CLUB*
10-Omar Kaihatsu (Chi).

Lobbying Efforts Must Continue, Says Redress Chair

SACRAMENTO — Responding to the call of the JACL-LEC Board on the need for additional funds while entering the 87-88 budget year, George Matsuoka, redress chair of the Northern California-Western Nevada-Pacific District, reports that his district allotment and goal is \$100,000.

According to Matsuoka, following meetings held in San Francisco, he joined with eight area coordinators and Mollie Fujioka, district governor, in setting into motion a direct mail appeal at an Aug. 29 kickoff meeting. At a Sept. 26 appraisal meeting, Judy Niizawa reported that one-quarter of the goal had been reached. The amount represented an average of \$30-\$35 per respondent, and the appeal has been directed to reach outside the JACL chapter community.

Matsuoka says the fund committee recognized that, despite the elation caused by the passage of the house bill and anticipation of a similar victory in the Senate, intensive lobbying efforts must continue "unabated at all levels."

In his report, Matsuoka said, "... we plead to those we have not reached to send in their contribution to LEC. We've come this far, and we must not fail to do our part."

The redress coordinators of Northern California are listed as fol-

lows:

- Area 1—Mary Tsukamoto, Reno, Marysville, Placer County, Sacramento and Florin
- Area 2—Bob Fuchigami, Marin County and Solano County
- Area 3—Nikki Bridges, San Francisco and Golden Gate
- Area 4—Noell Kubota, Es., San Mateo, Sequoia, West Valley and San Jose
- Area 5—Ben Umeda, Watsonville, Gilroy, San Benito County, Salinas and Monterey Pen.

■ Area 6—Mike Hamachi, Contra Cost, Berkeley, Diablo Valley, Oakland and Alameda

■ Area 7—Ted Inouye, Eden Township, Fremont and Tri-Valley

■ Area 8—George Baba, Lodi, Stockton, French Camp, Cortez and Livingston-Merced

Contributions should be sent to Legislation Education Committee, c/o Judy Niizawa, 834 Gary Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA 94086; or c/o George Matsuoka, 5679 Freepport Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95822.

Group Offers Support for the Divorced

LOS ANGELES — The death of a relationship can be as painful as the death of a loved one. But while widowed partners may have the support of their community, divorced individuals may have to look elsewhere.

It was the need to recognize the trauma of divorce that prompted Grace Nagamoto and Midori Kamei to found the Support Group for the Divorced in April of 1983. According to Nagamoto, forming the group was especially important because Nikkei have a tendency to internalize feelings rather than express them.

Originally sponsored by the Greater L.A. Singles' Chapter of the JACL, the free support group holds weekly meetings to help members rebuild self-esteem, develop new awareness and direction in their lives and learn other ways of relating to new romantic partners.

In addition, participants are promised confidentiality and a non-judgemental atmosphere.

For more information, call (213) 478-9565, 264-2769 or 329-6875; or (818) 882-1209, 474-3734 or 851-5436.

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& Nieuw Amsterdam
Inside Double Cabin, Peak Sailings/JUN 21 to AUG 16, 1988.

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