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Friday, February 26, 1988

L.A. Program Commemorates Redress Efforts

By Laurie Mochidome

LOS ANGELES — A celebration of community redress efforts pervaded the eighth annual Day of Remembrance program held Feb. 20 in the Japan America Theater. Sponsored by the National Coalition for Redress/Reparations (NCRP) and the JACL Pacific Southwest District (JACL PSW), the event brought together nearly 550 not only in commemoration of the 1942 signing of Executive Order 9066 but also in observance of the recent success of the redress legislation to remedy its injustices.

Themed "Redress and Reparations: Progressing Toward Justice," the program was technically a tribute to Reps. Robert Matsui and Norman Mineta (both D-Calif.) and Sen. Spark Matsunaga (D-Hawaii), all primarily responsible for the movement of the Civil Liberties Act of 1987 through Congress. The act, which would redress those of Japanese ancestry who suffered the wartime internment ordered by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, successfully passed through the U.S. House of Representatives on Sept. 17, 1987 and is now awaiting a vote in the U.S. Senate, where it is also expected to pass.

Alan Nishio, Southern California chairperson of NCRP, recalling when the idea of passing a reparations bill was not more than "a dream," said of the event, "I think it really commemorates the type of effort that we have seen within our

community."

The gains made in 1988, said Nishio, come from "those of you who have been willing to share your personal experiences and speak from your own emotional perspectives of what happened to us and the willingness of the community to unite and demand justice."

Sense of Guilt

Matsui, the only honoree able to attend, compared the difficulty many Issei and Nisei face in talking about their internment experiences with the mental ordeal of a rape victim.

He acknowledged that the hearings held by the Commission on the Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians in 1981 broke much of the silence. Nevertheless, alluding to an analogy he attributed to the late Edison Uno, Matsui said, "Here she is a victim but because of the act, her virtue comes into question. Some would say how could it happen unless she made some suggestions, statements or remarks."

"That is what happened to the 120,000 of us," he continued. "We were incarcerated by our government, accused of being disloyal to our country, a potential enemy alien, and there's the presumption that if you're jailed you must have done something wrong. So we had this sense of guilt, of shame that we must have done something wrong to warrant incarceration."

Giving Voice

Matsui commended the Japanese

American community for its effective letter-writing campaign on behalf of the Civil Liberties Act of 1987. However, he cautioned community members not to "rest on the laurels of last year." Speaking about when the act reaches the president's desk, he said, "I think we should prepare ourselves for that moment."

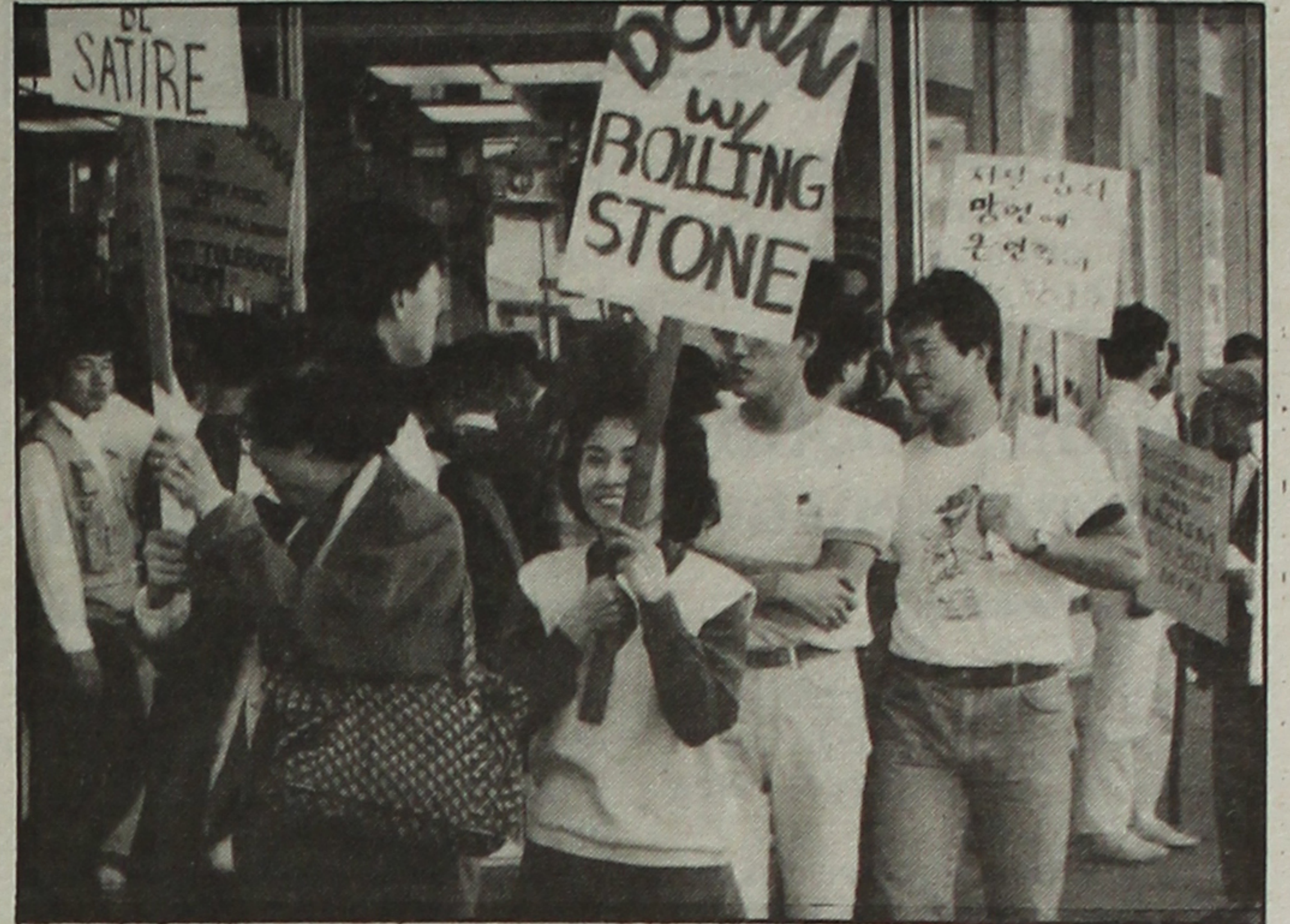
"Letters do have impact in the White House," he said. "Your efforts will not go unnoticed... it will be absolutely essential, critical, that you make your voice heard and known."

The congressman also took time out to address the role many Japanese American groups played in opposing the confirmation of Rep. Daniel Lungren (R-Calif.) to the office of State treasurer. Lungren had attempted to "gut" H.R. 442 during its House vote by introducing an amendment to destroy its award of monetary compensation to the former internees.

"I am convinced," said Matsui, "that if the Asian American community had not taken action to oppose Representative Lungren, his nomination would've been confirmed already."

"It's not so important that Rep. Lungren be denied," said Matsui. But in opposing his confirmation "the Japanese American community and the Asian American community for one of the few times in American history... put its neck out... to say [it was] for or against a principle." This act, said Matsui,

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Pacific Citizen Photo by George Johnston

SIGN LANGUAGE—Protesting inaction on the part of *Rolling Stone*, picketers demonstrate in front of the magazine's Beverly Hills advertising office on Feb. 17. The magazine's office was closed until 3 p.m.

Unhappy With Inaction

Korean Americans Picket Rolling Stone's L.A. Ad Office

By George Johnston

BEVERLY HILLS — Not content with promises of "good intentions," over 100 picket-bearers, mostly Korean Americans, demonstrated in front of the Beverly Hills advertising office of *Rolling Stone* magazine on Feb. 17. They were protesting what they felt was a lack of action and bad faith by the magazine to rectify the ill-will generated by an article entitled "Seoul Brothers," which appeared in the Feb. 11, 1988 issue.

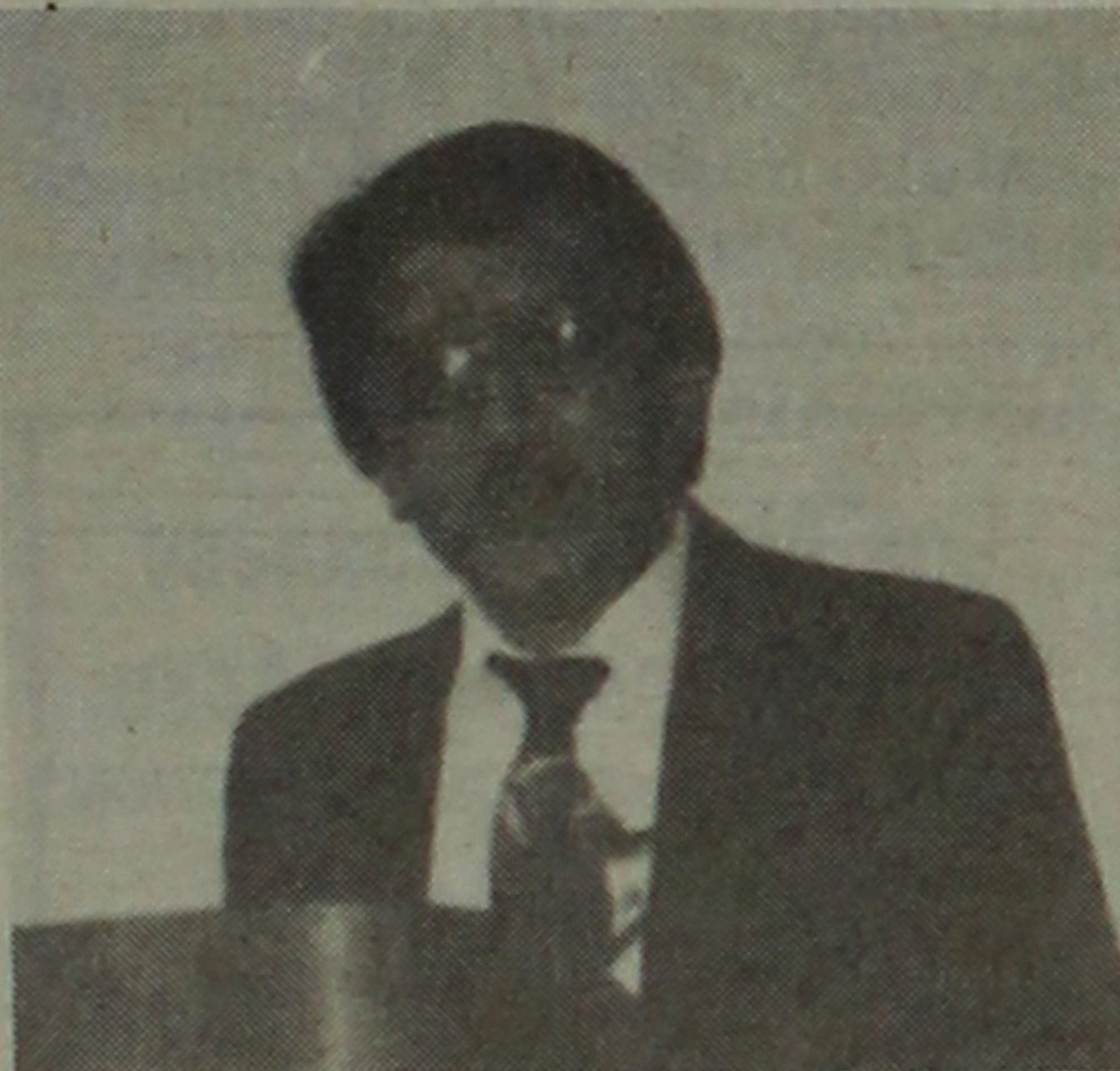
According to Korean American Coalition (KAC) President Yoon Hee Kim, a meeting between the magazine and community leaders to discuss and rectify the problem was tentatively set after a Feb. 4 news conference. "Such a meeting was set and they refused it," said Kim. "When we gave them the notice of the meeting, they gave me the run around... Friday morning in our office we received through express mail a letter that basically stated that *Rolling Stone* would not meet with us on the 17th and that the actions that they had taken so far were proof of their good intent."

More Demands

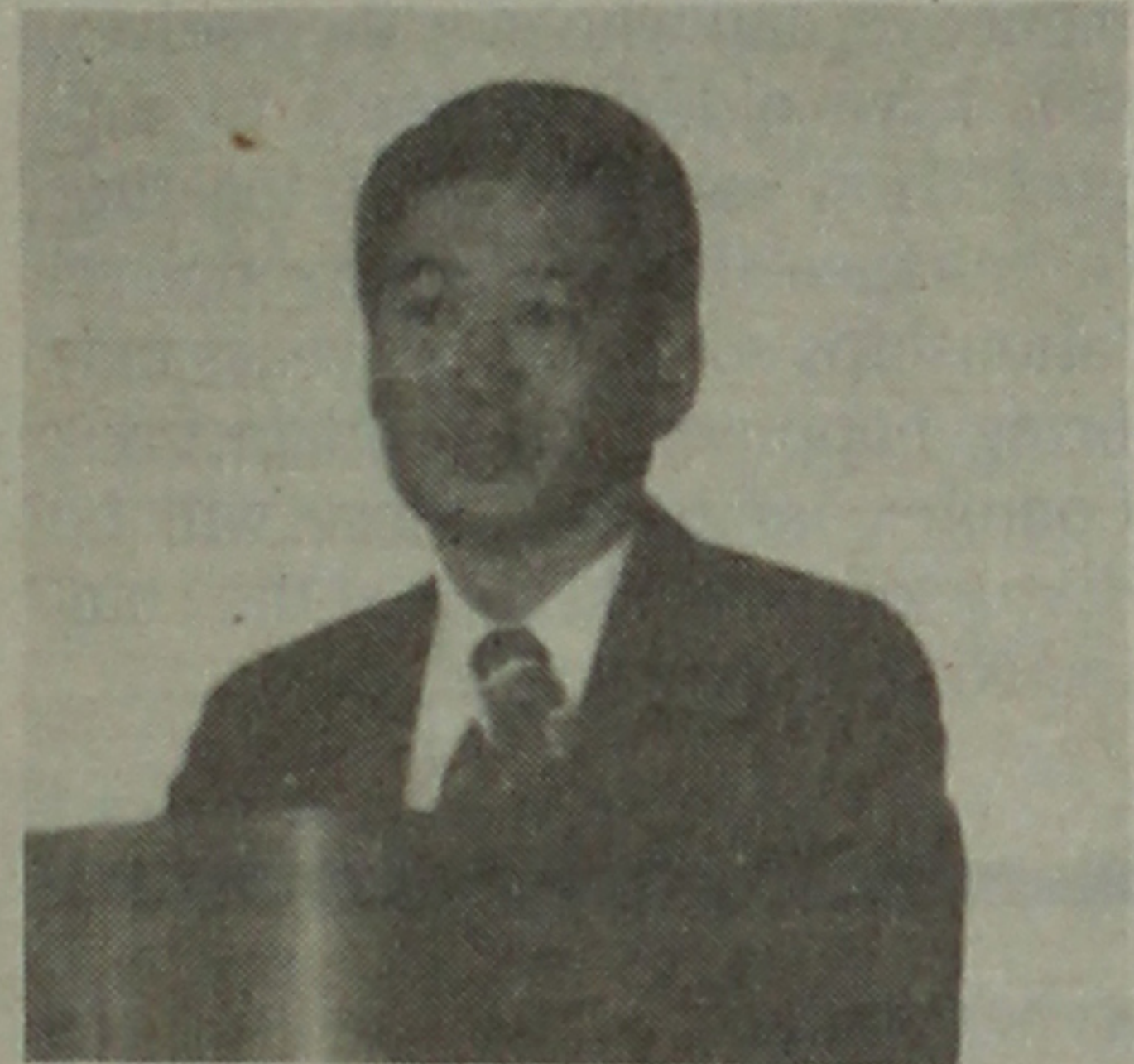
At the Feb. 4 press conference where Robert Wallace apologized

on behalf of the magazine, the Korean American community listed five requests to pop culture publication. Since then, they have further demanded that the writer of the article, P.J. O'Rourke, be fired, and that the magazine purchase advertisements in major Korean papers to publicly apologize. Should no action be taken, KAC Public Affairs Committee Chairwoman Ada Chun, threatened that the Asian community would initiate a letterwriting campaign to *Rolling Stone* advertisers "ordering them to sever all future economic relationships" with the magazine.

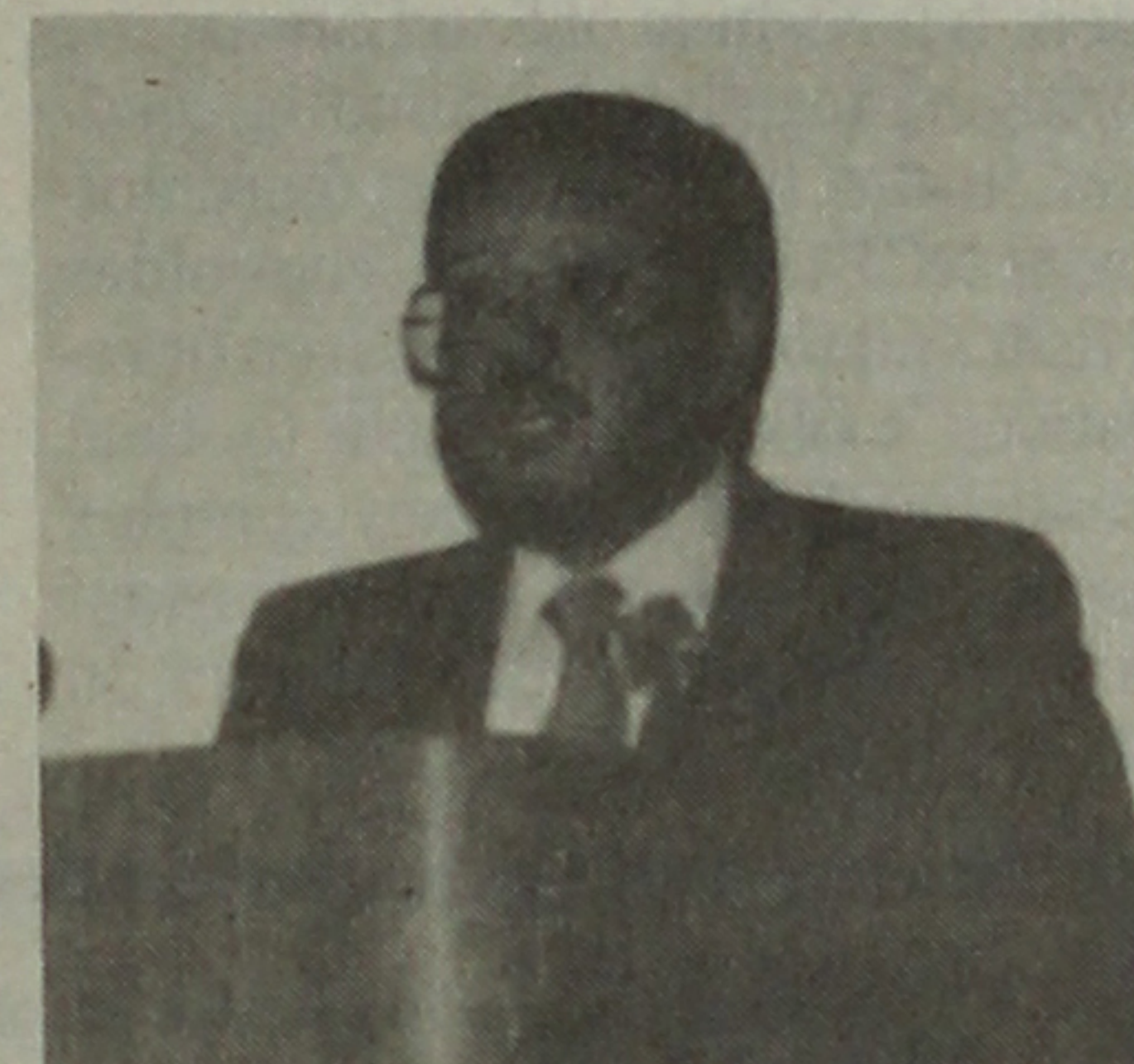
The bad feelings were aroused when the article made fun of the sound of the Korean language, the smell and effects of kimchi (a Korean staple) and the Koreans themselves, whom O'Rourke characterized as all looking alike. As a result, Los Angeles City Councilman Michael Woo held a press conference denouncing the article. The magazine's executive editor flew in from New York City and apologized for the article. The March 24, 1988 issue of the magazine is scheduled to print the apology and some of the letters concerning the article.



Bert Nakano



Robert Matsui



J.D. Hokoyama

Loni Ding's New Film

Award Winning Filmmaker Examines Color of Honor

By George Johnston

Is one man's honor better than another's? Are there different types of honor? Is honor real or perceived? What is honor?

Loni Ding's new film, *The Color of Honor*, takes a look at the nature of that which is known as honor. The documentary focuses mainly upon Japanese American Military Intelligence Service (MIS) personnel who served in the Pacific Theater of WW2, as well as upon Japanese American military resisters, many of whom spent time in federal prisons.

Ding, a multiple-awards winning filmmaker and University of California, Berkeley professor, is probably best known among Japanese Americans for her *Nisei Soldier*, a film about soldiers of the 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team. *The Color of Honor*, which took five years to make, examines the lesser known but also heroic exploits of the Nisei

intelligence men who greatly aided the American war effort, even though many had family members behind barbed-wire camps, by deciphering Japanese documents, translating Japanese radio transmissions and interrogating Japanese prisoners.

Intense Studies

"The central story in this film is the role of the Military Intelligence, the Nisei in the Pacific as translators and decoders and interrogators. Their role was so unique... they were the only ones with that skill. No one can train quickly in the conversational Japanese," said Ding. "You have to work hard to build ability to read, but to be able to speak... all those subtleties of the Japanese spoken language alone are so complex. You almost have to be born to it in order to do it readily." That was not the only quality that the Nisei MIS men had. "They had the capacity to work

hard," said Ding.

In order to achieve proficiency in written and spoken Japanese, many MIS men went through the most intense, rigorous study periods they could ever experience, under incredible wartime pressure. "Everyone describes it as the hardest study period they had ever undertaken in their lives," said Ding. "The pace and intensity was mind-boggling." The MIS Language School training meant countless hours of Japanese study for those who needed to be "brought up to speed" in Japanese. After this, many went to the Pacific to use their skills in do or die situations in the field, where their interpretations of enemy intelligence had no luxury of time for double-checking.

The MIS men had White bodyguard soldiers in the field to insure that fellow Americans didn't mis-

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Mineta Commends Heyman

WASHINGTON — Rep. Norman Mineta (D-Calif.), on Feb. 11, commended University of California, Berkeley Chancellor Ira Michael Heyman for his testimony before the State Assembly Subcommittee on Higher Education. Heyman had apologized for his lack of sensitivity regarding the controversy surrounding the low admission of Asian and Asian American students to the campus. Mineta said, "I am pleased that the university has taken steps to address the charges that there are enrollment policies which discriminate against Asian and Asian American students." Mineta went on to say that "a pattern of unconscious bias, if not addressed, could mean we have a de facto quota system." He also stressed that UC Berkeley should not be mistaken as an isolated case. "Just because this issue has yet to receive much national attention does not mean it is not a national problem. We must continue to be alert and aware and ready to ask questions."

Barry Gets 'Foot in Mouth'

NEW YORK — An item published in the *New York Daily News* criticized television commentator Rick Barry for a racist statement he made while calling the action in the NBA slam dunk contest, which took place Feb. 7 in Chicago. Barry, a former pro basketball great, described one of Michael Jordan's moves as "his Chinese Superman dunk. He came in on a slant approach." In the wake of the Jimmy the Greek fiasco, the item said, you'd think that nobody would again knowingly engage in nationally televised "foot-in-the-mouth behavior."



Pacific Citizen Photo by George Johnston

REMEMBERING ELLISON—On hand to attend the late astronaut Col. Ellison Onizuka's second anniversary memorial service were (l-r) Ryo Munekata; Matt Matsuoka; Onizuka's widow, Lorna Onizuka; his mother, Mitsue Onizuka; and his brother, Claude Onizuka. The service was held Feb. 6 at the Nishi Hongwanji in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo.

Onizuka Continues Husband's Commitment to U.S. Space Program

By Laurie Mochidome

LOS ANGELES — Disillusionment with the U.S. space program is what one would expect to hear from a widow of a Challenger crew member.

Lorna Onizuka, however, was supportive of NASA as she met with reporters Feb. 6 in the Nishi Hongwanji Temple prior to attending memorial services for her husband, the late Col. Ellison Onizuka. Continuing his promotion of the U.S. space program, she was on stopover en route to Japan to view a satellite launch and meet with the prime minister. Col. Onizuka had perished, along with six others, in the Jan. 28, 1986 explosion of the Challenger spacecraft.

Lorna, who still resides in Houston and receives letters of support from around the world, admitted the accident put her in a "paradoxical position."

Addressing allegations that NASA was negligent for rushing procedures to get the Challenger's launch off in time, she said, "Like anything, sometimes you get very upset when they do things certain ways." But the program is "why [Ellison] chose to enter that career. As it turned out, that's what he died for. I guess that's why I hope it gets back on its feet."

Of the recent reports that the development of booster rockets, which have been attributed to the Jan. 28 explosion, may still be being rushed for the next shuttle launch, she said, "I think the Rogers Commission came up with a lot of safety improvements that needed addressing."

"Personally I would hope very

very hard... that all of the recommendations are respected and that they do make the program as safe as possible... I hope they do not cut corners because that is something they cannot afford to do."

In discussing events prior to and after the accident, Lorna revealed what life was like for the family of the first Japanese American astronaut.

Meeting Ellison

She met Ellison while both were attending the University of Colorado in Boulder, she said, although they had known of each other while growing up in Kona, Hawaii. After marrying in 1969, they eventually raised two daughters, Janelle and Darien, now 18 and 12. When Ellison began working for the U.S. Air Force, they moved the family to the McClellan Air Force Base in Sacramento and later to the Edwards Air Force Base in Lancaster, California.

About her husband's evident aspirations to become an astronaut, Lorna said, "He kidded about that, but he never really talked about it that often..."

"In fact, when he applied for it he never even told me," she said, explaining that he'd been away in Tennessee for six weeks. Even after he went through a series of screenings, the family refused to get its hopes up. According to Lorna, Ellison was one of 35 chosen from approximately 80,000 applicants.

Making Adjustments

At first, adjusting to his new station was not easy. After years of living on a military base, the Onizuka

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Horikawa Speaks Against Lungren Confirmation

By Bill Wong

SACRAMENTO — Los Angeles Attorney Harvey Horikawa appeared before the Senate Rules Committee Feb. 18 to speak in opposition to the nomination of Congressman Daniel Lungren (R-Long Beach) to the position of State treasurer. The surprising element of Horikawa's testimony is that he is a Republican and a Deukmejian appointee to the California Fair Employment and Housing Commission, which is the state's civil rights commission.

Citing Lungren's civil rights voting record, most specifically his adamant opposition to redress, Horikawa took the podium to speak against Lungren's confirmation, knowing full well that it could mean he won't be reappointed to the commission in September.

"It's a matter of conscience," said Horikawa. "My parents were incarcerated, so this is a very personal thing with me. Every elected official must swear to uphold the Constitution of the United States, and Congressman Lungren has not shown me that he is prepared to do that."

Also testifying in opposition were Mollie Fujioka, Northern California Western Nevada Pacific District governor of JACL; Fred Hirasuna of Fresno; Midori Watanabe Kamei, president of the South Bay chapter of JACL; G. Akito Maehara with the National Coalition for Redress/Reparations; Long Nguyen of Santa Ana, representing the Vietnamese American Bar Association and the Vietnamese American Citizens Co-

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alition; and Ferdinand Galvez, representing the Asian Pacific American Coalition.

In an emotional appeal, both Fujioka and Kamei related personal stories of their families' internment. Kamei's father-in-law, who was very ill with pneumonia at the time of evacuation, died shortly after being sent to camp after appeals by the family to hospitalize him were denied.

Many of the Asians in the audience were incensed when Lungren took a long recess during the testimony of the Asian witnesses. As cited by the National Coalition for Redress/Reparations, this action resembled Lungren's pattern during the testimony of the Asian witnesses when the redress hearings were held in Congress.

Bobbi's Outburst

Very early in the proceedings, Congressman Lungren's wife, Bobbi, in an emotional outburst, stated that her husband is not a racist. This occurred after Bishop H.H. Brookins from Los Angeles made a statement to the effect that many people use fiscal conservatism to

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NJCASC Hosting Conference

On May 13, 14, and 15, 1988, the Northern California Japanese American Senior Centers, formerly Bay Area Japanese American Senior Centers, is hosting a conference, "Nikkei Forum: Issues and Concerns of Japanese American Elders". According to NJCASC president Ich Nishida of San Lorenzo, by bringing together outstanding leaders in the field of aging (gerontology), NJCASC hopes to give older Nisei and their adult children or relatives tools with which to deal realistically with the many, complex issues they face at this important and potentially difficult point in their relationships.

What kinds of resources can they draw on in their own communities? Where or to whom can they go for help? How can Sansei, who are busy raising their own families, trying to establish their own careers or professions, best help their parents who have reached or are reaching retirement age, and who may themselves, still have elderly parents to support? How can they work together to enhance their interpersonal relationships so that these years may bring happiness and satisfaction? Complex issues like these will be discussed in workshops at the coming Nikkei conference.

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Hosokawa to Speak at Sac'to Program

SACRAMENTO — Priscilla Ouchida, Sacramento JACL chapter president, has announced that Bill Hosokawa, noted author of many books and articles on Japanese Americans and former editor of the *Denver Post*, has been secured as the keynote speaker of a day of remembrance dinner to be held March 20 at the Sacramento Inn, 180 Arden Way.

Hosokawa, whose last speaking engagement in Sacramento was in

1969 during the Aizu-Wakamatsu celebration, will be available to discuss his latest book, *They Call Me Moses Masaoka*, during a social hour at 5 p.m. The following dinner and program will be held at 6 p.m. and 7 p.m., respectively.

Tickets are \$15 per person and may be obtained from Percy Masaki, (916) 441-2188; or Toko Fujii, California First Bank (916) 441-7900. Those desiring more information can also contact Fujii at home, (916) 421-2112.

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Copies of the Pacific Citizen in microfilm are available. While the first reel features scattered prewar monthly issues from Vol. 1, No. 1 (dated Oct. 15, 1929) through March 1942 (the eve of Evacuation), plus the entire run of weekly issues of 1942 from June through December, the remaining years are contained in 25 reels. This 26-reel set is available at \$840.


The 1987 reel is available at a \$32 pre-publication price if ordered before March 31, 1988. Cost after that date will be \$42.

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DING FILM

Continued from front page

take them for the enemy. As the war progressed, they were called upon to persuade Japanese soldiers and civilians to surrender to the United States instead of committing suicide. They did all this with very little recognition... even years after World War II was over. The accomplishments were kept classified.

War Resisters

The *Color of Honor* also looks at another group, a group some in the Nikkei community feel ashamed of. Years later, Ding's film also takes a look at the ones who, for a number of reasons, decided to resist military service. It's still a touchy subject for many. "I saw that what the resisters were doing as acts of conscience. The decision to go or not to go are all acts of conscience, are honorable of acts... the color of honor has many colors, there are many forms of honor.

"The ones who decide to go off to war see their buddies die and then... it becomes very difficult to accept that your buddies who died maybe should have never had to face that situation in the first place. The fact is that they did die and you don't want to detract from the value of the life that they sacrificed."

As for whether or not *The Color of Honor* will help heal any perceived rift between those served and those who didn't, Ding said, "I certainly think it's high time for reconciliation to happen."

Aiso's Contribution

The late John Aiso played a major part in the MIS Language School, and thus appears in *The Color of Honor*. "John Aiso is very key in the story," related Ding. "John Aiso tells

how he started off as a student, and then within the week he became part-time student/instructor, and within ten days or so, became head instructor."

"John Aiso is the one who had overall responsibility for developing a program that would work," said Ding, "and for maintaining an incredible pace of learning." Ding feels that Aiso's death was a "terrible, terrible loss." "I think that he's known by many people as a jurist... but the most unique achievement that he has for this country is his role in creating that school, in creating that program and in maintaining the level of training and preparedness so that those men going could have the best training they could get in a short time."

The Color of Honor will be shown in a benefit screening on March 6, 2:00 p.m., at the Japan American Theater. Tax deductible tickets are \$50.00. A reception for Loni Ding will follow the screening. For information and reservations, call Visual Communications at (213) 680-4462 or the Japan America Theater at (213) 680-3700.

HHS Scraps AFDC Program, Matsui Calls Decision 'Deplorable'

WASHINGTON — An angry delegation of California legislators told the federal government on Jan. 28 that it is outraged over the recent decision to scrap a \$40 million program designed to aid 30,000 homeless families in the state.

In a letter to U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Otis R. Bowen, the bipartisan delegation of U.S. congressmen and senators said the department's position reflects "a convoluted effort" to squash California's "first and only significant effort to address the serious crisis of homeless families."

The conflict centers around a unique bill passed by the California legislature last year that would provide shelter assistance to homeless families through the federal Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program. The bill was later signed into law by the state's republican governor.

On Jan. 26, 1988, HHS announced

that it would not allow California to implement its AFDC homeless plan as submitted. The department cited two reasons for its denial: 1) that the program was inequitable because it would only aid families that are homeless and not families that just want to move; and 2) that the program would not make homeless assistance payments to families with liquid resources over \$100.

"We have carefully reviewed the reasons for your disapproval and have concluded that they have no basis in federal law or regulation," the letter to Secretary Bowen states. "In fact, they appear to violate section 9118 of the recently passed Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1987."

Said Rep. Robert Matsui (D-Calif.): "It is deplorable that HHS should object to this program on the grounds of 'inequitable treatment.' The program's requirements are neither arbitrary nor inequitable. They are simply designed to provide assistance to those families who need help the most, period."

Matsui, who drafted the letter to HHS, has been meeting with California officials since the conflict began.

"HHS's decision to delay funding comes at the worst possible time," said Matsui. "Winter time is a 24-hour-a-day nightmare for the homeless. This is when they need help the most, not two months from now when the federal government realizes it made a mistake."

The AFDC-homeless program was scheduled to be implemented on Feb. 1, 1988. California legislators are urging HHS to reverse its position in a timely manner so that the program can meet its scheduled start-up date.

Asian American Alliance Supports Confirmation

IRVINE, Calif. — Describing Congressman Daniel Lungren's five congressional terms as exhibiting "extraordinary competence and integrity," the newly formed Asian American Alliance of California approved a resolution supporting his nomination as state treasurer on Jan. 24.

Although groups opposing the congressman form their opinion on what they term his "poor voting record" on civil rights issues, the alliance argues that Lungren's role in passing the Immigration Reform Act of 1986, the Voting Rights Act and the measure establishing the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians is proof of his concern for minority groups.

The organization says while it disagrees with Lungren's opposition to the individual monetary compensation for Japanese American and legal resident alien evacuees of WW2, it supports Lungren's approval of an apology for the injustices suffered by the former internees and his proposal of an award of \$50 million for public education about the event.

Dr. Julian Lee, chairman of the alliance, accuses organizations opposing Lungren, such as the Californians for Responsible Government, of using "inflammatory rhetoric" and "giving a false impression that most Asian Americans oppose his appointment."

Board members of the organization include Eunice Sato, Dr. Oscar Domondon, Dr. Jason Lai, Tony Lam, Jessica Wei Lee, Marie Marcelo, Dr. Hakto Pak and Mas Odoi.

Inouye, Matsunaga, Join JAMN Governors

LOS ANGELES — Senators Daniel Inouye and Spark Matsunaga, both of Hawaii, will serve as co-chairpersons of the Japanese American National Museum's Board of Governors, announced Bruce Kaji, president of the museum, at the board's annual meeting.

The recent meeting, held at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel, gathered together the representatives of the museum, as well as honoring various local dignitaries. At a dinner culminating the full one-day event, Congressman Robert Matsui from Sacramento addressed the Board of Trustees and Board of Governors, while Congressman Norman Mineta of San Jose installed the new trustee officers.

Presented with medals of merit were Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley, Little Tokyo Community Rede-

velopment Agency (CRA) Project Manager Cooke Sunoo, California State Senator Art Torres, and CRA Chairman James M. Wood. "These individuals in their own way, contributed to making this museum a reality," said Kaji.

Both Congressmen Matsui and Mineta are members of the Board of Governors, who will help the Board of Trustees in fund-raising efforts and gathering resources. Representing eight different geographic locations throughout the United States and also Japan, the governors will continue to broaden the museum's scope.

Other members of the board of governors are:

Harry Kajihara, president of the Japanese American Citizens League, Camarillo, California; Toy Kanegai, Los Angeles

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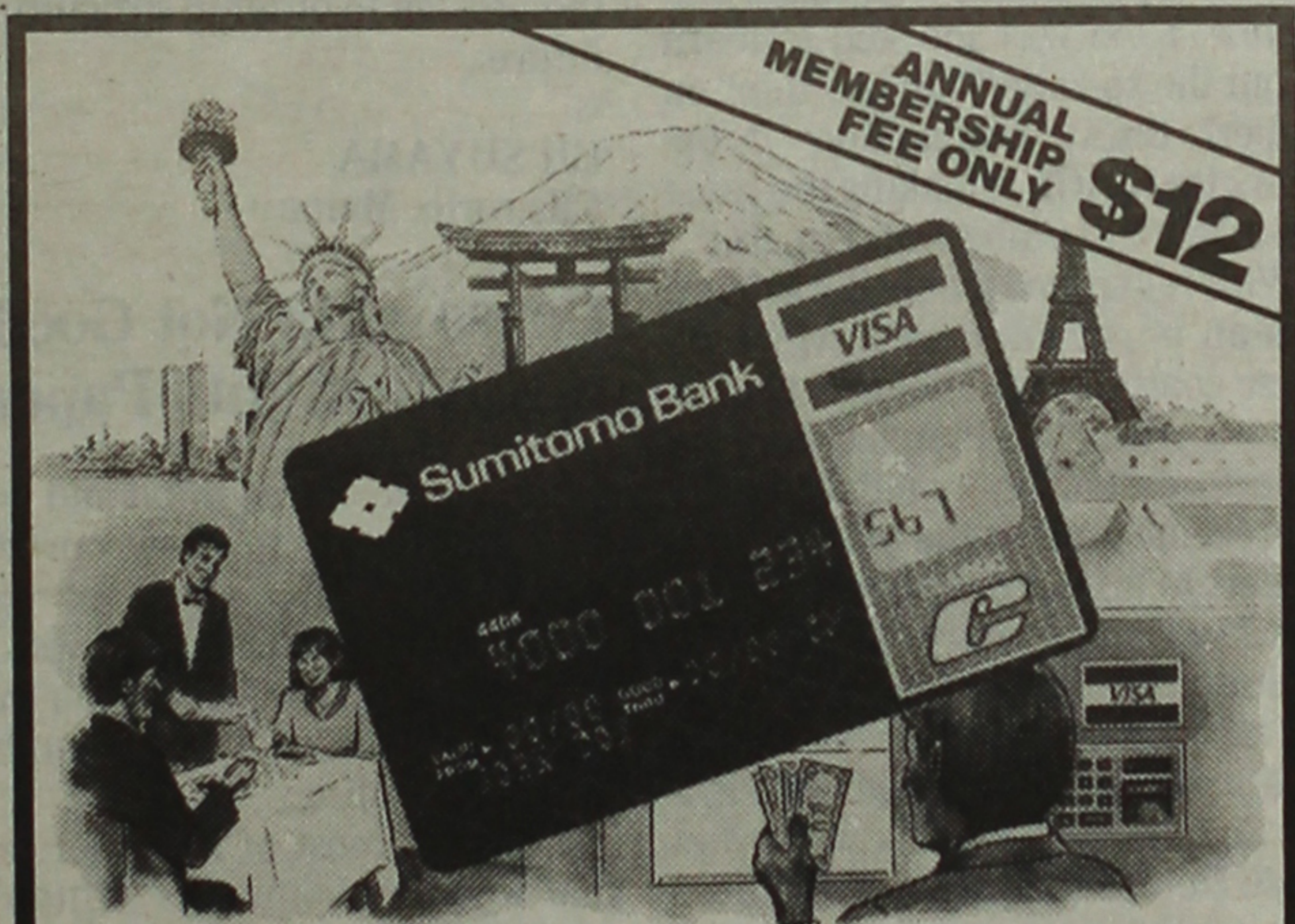
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LETTER

Continued from previous page

was convinced that a bank statement was never made "at least in that form."

In "Papers for the Commission," the ICF experts in a CWRIC consultant study estimate total economic losses to the Japanese American population of between \$2.7 and \$6.2 billion in 1983 dollars, assuming the wartime losses were to reflect inflation and a "modest" investment of 3 percent annual return.

Just as the continued use of the government's term "evacuation"

beggars what really happened, the use of the \$400 million fantasy distorts the losses in economic terms. Of course, even the \$6.2 billion can't buy back the pictures and letters of relatives in Japan that were destroyed, the piano that my wife's father was trying to pay for that was sold for \$10, and the hopes and faith that were demolished by the acts of those who misused their authority and still do not recognize what grave wrongs they committed.

JACK HERZIG
Lt. Col., USA, retired
Falls Church, Va.

Insightful Governor Gets Hero Vote

Editor's Note: The following reprint of Gene Amole's column originally appeared in the Dec. 10, 1987 issue of The Rocky Mountain News.

By Gene Amole

Unselfish. Lacking any involvement whatsoever with personal bravery, I fall back on Will Rogers' observation that "We can't all be heroes because someone has to sit on the curb and clap as they go by." Tomorrow is the 100th anniversary of Ralph Carr's birth, and I'll be sitting on the curb, clapping, as the memory of this courageous man passes by.

MOST OF the heroes I have known just happened to be at the right place at the right time. It wasn't so much a matter of valor as it was of chance. The real hero is one who ignores personal risk and goes ahead and does something because it needs to be done and because it is right.

I started thinking about this because Sen. William Armstrong (R-Colo.) has begun a campaign to put another statue of a distinguished Coloradan in National Statuary Hall in the U.S. Capitol. Each state is entitled to honor two of its citizens. Colorado has only one statue, that of Dr. Florence Sabin.

All sorts of names are being kicked around for the second honoree, including Zebulon Pike, David Moffat, F.G. Bonfils, Horace Tabor, Molly Brown, Chief Ouray, Charles Boettcher, John Evans, Jack Dempsey, Robert Speer, Lowell Thomas and even cannibal Alferd Packer. The danger, of course, is to confuse notoriety with genuine, unselfish public service.

My vote goes to Carr. When World War II broke out, he was the only western governor to welcome loyal Japanese Americans who were

being rounded up in West Coast states and sent to concentration camps. Against a wave of anti-Japanese sentiment, Carr went on the radio 46 years ago today and said, "We cannot test the degree of a man's affection for his fellows or his country by the birthplace of his grandfather."

IT WAS not a popular stand. Both *The Denver Post* and the *Rocky Mountain News* had whipped up knee-jerk, anti-Japanese bias in the wake of the attack on Pearl Harbor three days earlier. Colorado Sen. Ed Johnson made the clear implication in a statement that the Colorado National Guard should be called out to keep Japanese Americans out of Colorado.

Carr held firm, however, pointing out that loyal Japanese Americans had the same rights as others under the U.S. Constitution. His stand ended his political career. George L. Robinson, an administrative assistant in Carr's office, wrote just a few days ago: "So, what thanks did he get? He lost his chance to become a U.S. senator. He told us working for him that it might, and it did."

In the years that have followed, Congress has voted to apologize to these loyal Japanese Americans who were unjustly forced to leave their homes and who were denied their rights as citizens. Note of this will be taken at noon tomorrow when a ceremony honoring Carr will be held at the state capitol.

What this brave man did in Colorado at a precarious time in American history honors all free men everywhere. For this reason, I believe his service should be commemorated by placing a statue of Ralph Carr in the U.S. Capitol in Washington.

He was a genuine hero.

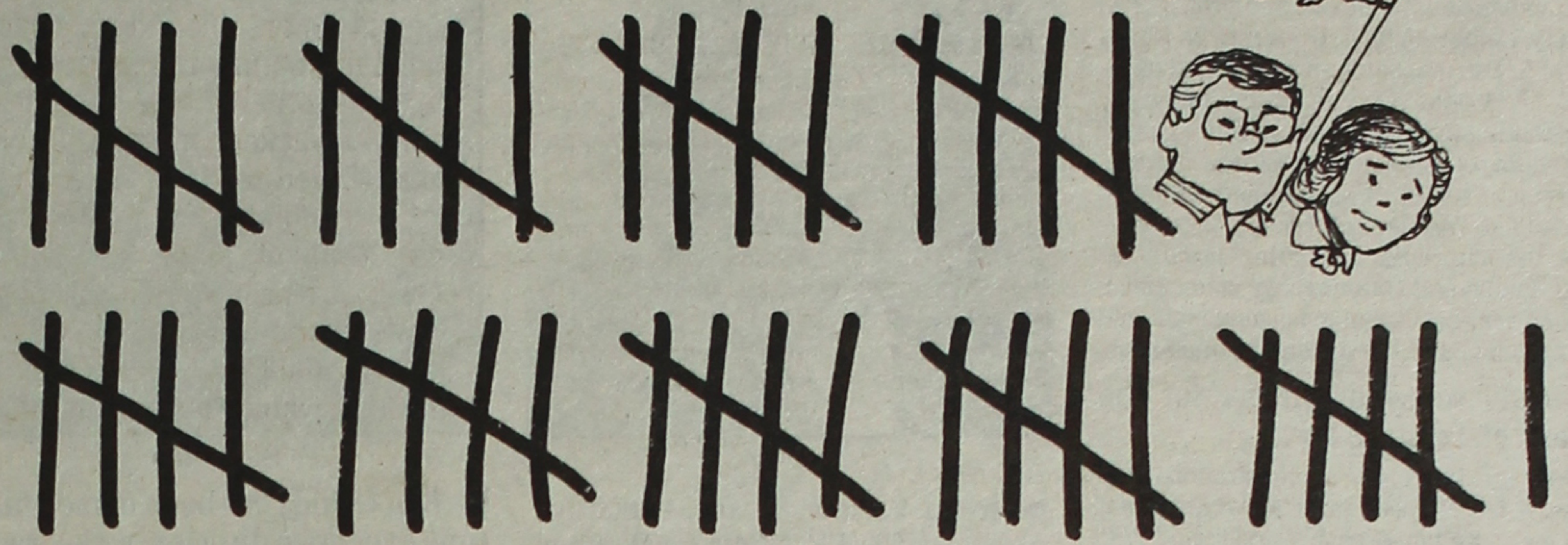
Stephen Nakashima, an attorney from San Jose; Nih Hul, president of the Cambodian Business Association of Long Beach; and Trong Nguyen, owner of La Boulangerie, Inc., from Sacramento.

Nguyen, a Democrat, testified that although he had just met the congressman the evening before at a Chinese New Year's party, he was impressed with Lungren's record on immigration. Nguyen's sense of humor brought some comic relief to the often tense atmosphere of the committee hearings. He stated that Lungren's rejection would make him more famous than "Humphrey the Whale."

The most emotional appeal for support came from Sato, who cited that although she personally did not go to camp her living conditions in Colorado at the time were comparable, if not worse, than the living conditions in the internment camps. She stated that she did not believe in reparations because "the loss of our liberty cannot be paid back by any amount of dollars." Sato went on to compare the nominee with "a diamond," calling Lungren a "brilliant and shining statesman."

Following Lungren's closing statement, the Senate Rules Committee voted 3-2 to recommend to the full Senate floor a non-confirmation.

STILL FENCED IN AFTER 46 YEARS



Pete Hirawaka 2/24/88

Jih-Pun

EAST WIND

Bill Marutani



for a specific city.

WHETHER IT BE the Portuguese, or some other nationality, that picked up *jih-pun* from the Chinese and corrupted, or otherwise changed it, to end up "Japan," inevitably other cultures do the same thing. Even the Japanese in naming their own country. The Japanese just as easily could have adopted *jih-pun* "as is." Instead, they took the same two *kanji* characters—*nichi* and *moto*—and called it "Nippon" or "Nihon." In so doing, they mixed up the Chinese (*ohn*) pronunciation with the Japanese-created (*kun*) pronunciation. Had they stuck consistently with the *kun* reading, the name of Japan would come out "Nichi-moto," which sounds like some ordinary, family name. Nothing wrong, mind you, with "Nichimoto" or anything similar to that. Why some of my best friends bear family names sounding strik-

GOT TO WONDERING the other day, how "Japan" came to be named as such. So I looked it up in Webster's (unabridged) dictionary and was a bit surprised by the basics of the derivation of the name; it comes from the Chinese, *jih-pun*, two characters meaning "sun" and "origin," respectively. From China, looking east to the Japanese archipelago and watching the sun rise, it can be understood how source-of-the-sun, *jih-pun*, was selected as the name.

The land of the rising sun.

FROM JIH-PUN to "Japan" is not a big leap. In fact, so little is the leap, one wonders why anyone took a leap at all: why not simply "Jipun"? Since what's done is done, I'm not suggesting a reversion to the original by de-westernizing the name "Japan." I'm having enough problems trying to unlearn my high school geography since the People's Republic of China launched its program of asserting indigenous names for its areas: Beijing (for Peking) isn't so bad, even I can handle that one; and Tianjin (Tientsin) isn't too bad; but from then on, it's a bit rough, such as Lianyangang (for Xinpu). Why, I even have a tough time trying to pronounce that last one, let alone recognize the name

ingly similar to "Nichimoto." Be that as it may, one can hardly name a nation with a family-sounding name, now can you? (Although, come to think of it, "America" is derived from Amerigo Vespucci, the Italian navigator. Do you realize how close we came to be known as "The United States of Vespucci"?)

THE FASCINATION of *kanji*, particularly in the hands of the *Nippon-jins*, takes on a chameleonic character, especially when it comes to names of families and places. Take this columnist's family name, for example: Marutani. In Chinese, it's "gan-ku." In fact, the *maru* part retains its Chinese (*ohn*) reading as a compound character, e.g. *gan-yaku* (medicinal pill). Yet in other compound forms, it may retain its Japanese (*kun*) reading, as in "Marubeni." But Marutani may also be pronounced, as written, as "Maruya." There probably are a few "Maruya's" out there who write their surnames in the same characters as I write mine. So ephemeral are Japanese family names that one literally needs a dictionary of names. (I don't have one, yet.)

WE'LL STOP here so that you can go to the medicine cabinet and get yourself a *gan-yaku*. Triple strength.

Rolling Stone's Ignorance

Rolling Stone magazine and writer P.J. O'Rourke have received the ire of the Korean American community because of the "Seoul Brothers" article. Much of the article was really not too objectionable; some of O'Rourke's observations are quite good. The offending matter came from just a few lines in which O'Rourke wrote that Koreans (and, by implication, all Asians) "really do all look alike." He also made fun of how the Korean language sounds and how he was "overwhelmed by the amazing stink of kimchi."

Realistically, Koreans shouldn't be too upset by the cracks about kimchi and the sound of the Korean language. That kind of observation is his opinion and so be it; I could find Asian Americans (including Korean Americans) who would say the same thing.

The unfortunate part of the affair is that *Rolling Stone* let that line about Koreans all looking alike actually reach print. Such an observation is also opinion, but it shows tremendous insensitivity, latent racism, astounding arrogance, and ugly ethnocentrism, as well as condescension and ignorance. That kind of thinking dehumanizes an entire group of people, robbing each Korean of individuality.

O'Rourke's comments, made in jest, reveal a mean-streak from the same poisoned thought patterns of those that told us that the Japanese were like prints made from the same negative, that a Jap is a Jap, that the Vietnamese value life less

IROIRO

George Johnston



than Euro-Americans, that the only good Injun is a dead Injun, that the Irish are drunkards... you get the idea.

The meanspiritedness behind O'Rourke's comments are especially sad in light of the way *Rolling Stone* tries to portray itself. I've been a frequent *Rolling Stone* reader for over 10 of its twenty years, and my impression of the magazine was that it would stick up for the little guy, the underdog, the oppressed, the rugged individualist. Those few lines of "Seoul Brothers" are a steel-toed boot in the teeth of that illusion.

It also got me thinking about *Rolling Stone* magazine itself. At the press conference where *Rolling Stone* executive editor Robert Wallace initially apologized about the article, the question about institutional racism came up. Wallace denied that this was true. I've no doubt he was sincere.

But, if actions speak louder than words, what do past issues of *Rolling Stone* tell us? It tells me that they

might as well have such a policy considering how much space they've given the Asian American.

In addition to celebrities and occasional politicians, *Rolling Stone* dedicates much of its contents to the coverage of rock and popular music. Other than Yoko Ono, (and comedian Tommy Chong) how many of persons of Asian ancestry have graced their cover? How much coverage has been given Asian American musicians and groups? When (if ever) was the last time they've run anything about the band Hiroshima? How about the pop, rock and fusion musicians of one of the world's largest music consumers, Japan? How about music out of Hawaii? How about actor John Lone? We're talking some mighty slim pickings.

In the meantime, I've got to disagree with those who advocate that *Rolling Stone* get rid of P.J. O'Rourke. It would merely repeat the same mistake that CBS Sports made by dumping Jimmy Snyder. Canning O'Rourke would foster resentment; sensitizing, educating and enlightening him and his magazine, while more time-consuming and difficult, would do everyone a favor.

We've all got a long way to go to repair damage from bad press, negative perceptions and ignorant stereotypes. But, with a some clear thinking, this latest in a long line of ignorance can be turned into an constructive opportunity.

HORIKAWA

Continued from page 2

hide racism in voting against social programs to help Blacks.

Bobbi Lungren rushed to the podium and decried the supposed accusation. Sen. David Roberti, chairman of the Senate Rules Committee, assured her that no one was suggesting that her husband was a racist and that the term were merely used in the context of describing votes.

His voice filled with emotion, Roberti said, "Mrs. Lungren, I understand how difficult it is to sit here and listen to people say negative things about your husband, but these witnesses represent minority groups that have been oppressed for many generations so they are and have a right to be emotional too!"

In addition to the Asian witnesses, opposition was also heard from representatives of labor unions, senior citizen and women's organizations, the gay community, Black and Hispanic civil rights groups and environmental groups.

Sato Supports Nominee

Among the Asian Pacific American witnesses testifying in support of Lungren were Eunice Sato, former mayor of Long Beach;

