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Friday, March 31, 1989

Nikkei Accused of Child Molestation

LOS ANGELES—Stanley Y. Tanabe, 32, of the Los Angeles Police Dept.'s Metro Division was charged this past week (Mar. 21) by the district attorney's office with molesting a 14-year-old girl while pretending to search her (for weapons, it was contended) under pretense of answering a call for help at her Hollywood home.

Four felony charges were filed, bail set at \$250,000, and Tanabe is facing one count each of lewd conduct by force, assault with intent to commit child molestation and two counts of burglarly for allegedly barging into the house twice.

Deputy district attorney Ken Freeman said the girl's parents, who speak only Spanish, filed the complaint with police.

Defense attorney Paul DePasquale said Tanabe will plead not guilty at his arraignment April 4. "There is nothing in this fellow's background that would lead you to believe he could have done something like this," DePasquale added. Tanabe is married, is the father of an infant, and a nine-year veteran with the department.

AAJA Convention Begins Next Week

SAN FRANCISCO — An estimated 500 journalists, media executives, job recruiters and students will meet in San Francisco beginning Wednesday, April 5, for the Asian American Journalists Association 1989 National Convention.

The four-day convention—"Visions for a New Decade"—will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel at the Embarcadero. The convention will feature keynote addresses by C. Shelby Coffey III, editor of the *Los Angeles Times* and Ken Kashiwahara, San Francisco Bureau chief for ABC News.

A number of workshops will provide educational information and professional skills enhancement for journalists working in print, broadcast and photojournalism. Also, approximately 100 job recruiters from throughout the U.S. will be interviewing applicants at the convention's job fair on April 7.

For more information, call the national AAJA office at (415) 346-2051.

UCLA's Nikkei Student Union Seeking Donations for Scholarship Fund Drive

LOS ANGELES — The Nikkei Student Union (NSU) of the University of California, Los Angeles, is currently seeking donations for its NSU Scholarship Fund.

Unlike scholarships based primarily upon scholastic achievement, the NSU Scholarship emphasizes an individual's record of community service, interest in Japanese American culture, and financial need. The main emphasis of the scholarship is student involvement in the community and to recognize the efforts of those individuals who work toward the benefit of the community.

The NSU will award scholarships to incoming freshmen in May 1989. Donations are needed to further establish and maintain the scholarship fund. If you wish to donate, checks should be made payable to "Regents of the University of California." Donations are tax-deductible and should be mailed to the UCLA Nikkei Student Union Scholarship Fund, 3232 Campbell Hall, Los Angeles, CA 90024-1546. For more information, call the UCLA NSU at (213) 825-7184 or (213) 825-1006.



MUNICIPAL OFFICERS LUNCHEON—Rep. Robert T. Matsui recently hosted a luncheon for Asian Pacific American municipal officers attending a National League of Cities Conference in Washington, D.C. during the week of March 14. Seated (l-r) are Marshall J. Wong, special assistant to D.C. Mayor Marion Berry for Asian & Pacific Islanders Affairs; Nao Takasugi, mayor, Oxnard, Calif.; and Mrs. George Nakano. Standing (l-r), Ken Nishino, mayor, Hemet, Calif.; Lloyd Hara, city treasurer, Seattle; Matsui; and George Nakano, city councilman, Torrance, Calif.

April Date Set for 'Go for Broke Nat'l Vets Association' Meeting

WASHINGTON — A meeting to organize the Go For Broke National Veterans Association is scheduled for April 14-16 at the Buena Park Hotel near Los Angeles.

According to Toro Hirose, acting secretary, the meeting is directed at all Japanese American veterans, especially those who served during WWII.

The organizational meeting, described as "what may be our final bivouac together," will in part deter-

mine how the legacy of the Nikkei war veteran will be chronicled. Members of the Preparatory Organizing Committee include Jun Yamamoto, Dr. Harold Harada, Paul Bannai, Mike Masaoka, Key Kobayashi, Ben Obata, Toro Hirose and Joe Ichiuji.

All interested Japanese American veterans desiring additional information may contact Dr. Harold Harada, P.O. Box 2525, Culver City, CA 90231-2525, or call him at (213) 837-5121.



Photo By Tom Masamori

ALBUQUERQUE'S SPRING MEETING—Speaking at the JACL Redress testimonial to New Mexico's congressional delegation were Ruth Hashimoto (left), national JACL president Cressey Nakagawa, and New Mexico Secretary of State Rebecca Vigil-Giron.

Nisei Loyalty Issue of World War II Era Reviewed at Mountain Plains District Meet

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.—Wartime experiences of Japanese Americans were exchanged — especially over the WRA leave clearance questionnaires No. 27 and 28 which was not cited in the controversial JACL National Convention resolution #7 that was the subject of the panel discussion at the Mountain Plains District Council session March 17-18 here at the Hilton Hotel.

Among the panelists were Bob Cullum, ex-WRA project director and leader in the Issei citizenship bills, of Albuquerque; Tom Masamori, a 442nd RCT veteran, of Denver; and Col. John Ando (USAF retired), whose father had responded "No-No" to Nos. 27-28. The discussion sought to clarify some misunderstandings about the resolution.

The national JACL convention last August had deferred action on the resolution. The national board Feb. 4 (see Feb. 17 P.C.) established a presidential study group to review JACL's policies and actions during the Evacuation, internment and resettlement periods.

The resolution noted it was time to recognize the "pain and resentment (of persons acting individually and in the name of JACL) . . . in the hearts of a number of our fellow citizens of Japanese (or the so-called "No-No Boys"). It called upon National JACL to apologize for their injuries, pain and injustice in the same manner that the United States has apologized by passage of the Redress bill.

Some of the strongest opposition to the resolution at the convention came from Nisei veterans in attendance.

Next Redress Payment Hearing Before House Appropriations

By Rita Takahashi

WASHINGTON—Hearings in the Congress on authorizing payment of redress will continue in the House April 5 with representatives from Japanese American organizations scheduled to speak in favor. The first hearings were held Feb. 23.

The next opportunity comes before the the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary and Related Agencies chaired by Rep. Neal Smith (D-Iowa), who has hearings for three days (April 4-6) with the afternoon of April 5, Wednesday, planned on P.L. 100-383, the redress bill.

Joining the JACL and other Japanese American groups testifying in favor next week will be various congressmen and individuals.

Six or seven groups in opposition

are also scheduled, including the American War Veterans Relief Assn., which seeks to stop payment on grounds P.L. 100-383 violates equal protections and is unconstitutional.

The Japanese American Citizens League's Legislative Education Committee (JACL-LEC) had previously testified for redress with the Senate appropriations subcommittee Feb. 23 and with the House judiciary subcommittee Mar. 15 (see Mar. 24 P.C.).

Also, the House budget subcommittee met Mar. 20 for testimony from congressional members only.

Reporting on redress strategy in detail is the JACL-LEC newsletter, "The Redress Monitor," the current issue bearing a Feb.-Mar. 1989 date. Copies are available at JACL-LEC, 1730 Rhode Island Ave. NW, Suite 204, Washington, DC 20036.

SFSU Rejects Nakajo's Grievance

By Patty Wada

Hokubei Mainichi

SAN FRANCISCO — Steve Nakajo's grievance against San Francisco State University's Asian American Studies Department has been denied.

Nakajo learned of the decision during the week of March 12 from a letter he received from Judith Gappa, associate provost of faculty affairs.

A part-time temporary faculty member at the campus, Nakajo filed his grievance last year, protesting the loss of an Asian American studies course he had taught since 1983.

He claimed he was not given due consideration when the teaching assignment was made and that the decision violated the Personnel Action File, upon which personnel actions must be based.

The grievance, filed against the department and its chairman, George Woo, sought reinstatement to the department and back pay for the course assignment Nakajo did not receive.

Accompanying Nakajo to a Feb. 22 grievance meeting with the university were Nina Fendel of the California Faculty Association; Cynthia Hall, chair of the CFA Faculty Rights Panel; and Dean Ito Taylor, a member of Nakajo's support committee.

Representing SFSU were Gappa; Patricia Rogers, acting associate dean for faculty affairs; and Mollie B. Dunlop, an attorney with the Office of General Counsel.

Also present were Woo and Phillip McGee, dean of the School of Ethnic

Studies.

In her letter, Gappa noted that Nakajo still carries the same number of teaching hours and that he "was not asked to teach courses outside his field of experience, nor was he assigned courses in unrelated disciplines."

As for Nakajo's contention that the class reassignment was in violation of the Personnel Action File, Gappa stated that "course assignments are not considered personnel actions . . . A faculty member is not entitled to teach specific courses within a department. The grievant was given a subsequent appointment and the university has met its obligations under the agreement."

In November 1988, when Nakajo was asked whether he thought he was being "squeezed out" of the department, he said he felt Woo had a "personal vendetta," adding, "I think this is a case of an administrator manipulating the system to strategically master a department at the expense of qualified veteran personnel and curriculum and student needs."

Gappa wrote that "no evidence was presented to indicate Mr. Nakajo's course assignments were punitive."

Reacting to the decision, Nakajo remarked, "I'm real disappointed and angry," and expressed "disenchantment" with the university and the department.

However, he added, "As far as I'm concerned, it's not over."

Nakajo's only recourse at this point is to file an appeal for a grievance

Continued on Page 2

NEWS IN BRIEF

Sansei Woman Lands No. 2 Alameda County Job

OAKLAND, Calif. — Susan Muranishi, 38, was appointed assistant county administrator, effective March 6, — a \$69,096 position today and the highest level in Alameda county history ever held by a woman, county administrator Steven Szalay announced. Daughter of the Tak Shirasawas, Berkeley JACLers, will oversee 9,800 employees in a wide range of services including welfare, AIDs, homeless, health care, jails, foster care and law enforcement programs. A UC Berkeley graduate in social sciences and a 14-year county employee, she had been in the county's No. 3 post for two years as principal analyst preparing and monitoring a \$909 million county budget. Her husband Aaron is a CPA; they have two children, 5 and 1 year-old. Szalay was appointed two days earlier (Feb. 28) by the board of supervisors to replace retiring county administrator Mel Hing.

Rep. Mineta Named to Family Issues Task Force

WASHINGTON—Rep. Norman Mineta (D-Calif.) was appointed March 16 by Speaker of the House Jim Wright to the Democratic Task Force on the American Family to formulate recommendations to the appropriate House committees on a broad range of family issues such as child care, parental leave, prenatal care, Head Start, health services and income support. The committee is charged with strengthening the American family, Mineta explained.

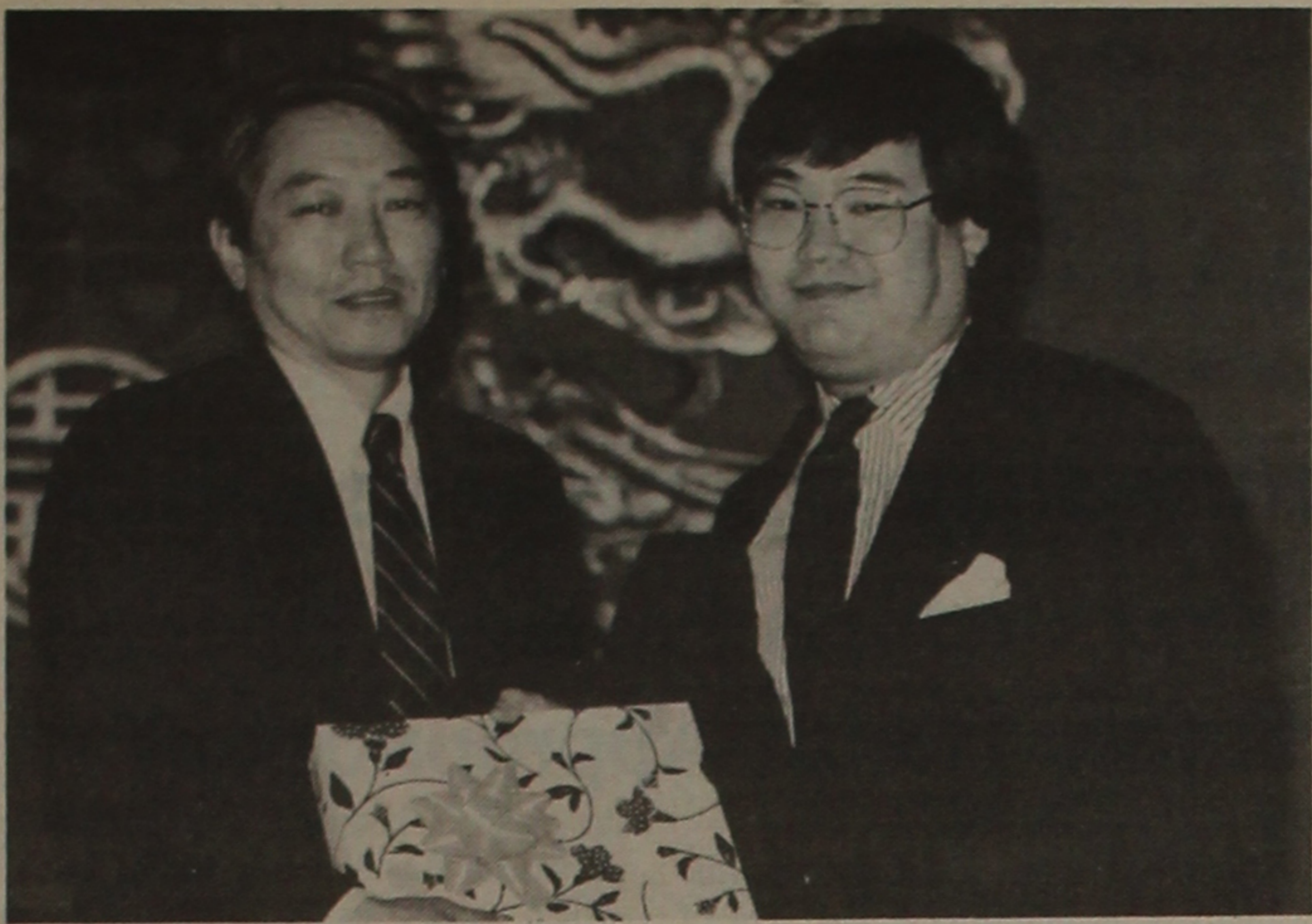


Photo By Shigeo Yakote

SACRAMENTO DAY OF REMEMBRANCE—JACL-LEC Legislative Strategy Chair Grant Ujifusa (left) addressed over 200 people at the Sacramento JACL's Day of Remembrance on Feb. 25. Chapter President Lon Hatamiya (right), who also served as the evening's master of ceremonies, is shown presenting a token of appreciation to Ujifusa.

Nat'l JACL-Sponsored Washington, D.C. Leadership Program Set for September

SAN FRANCISCO — The National JACL has announced that the 1989 Washington, D.C. Leadership Program has been scheduled for the week of Sept. 30-Oct. 6. Leadership program participants will obtain a first hand look into the decision-making process and how they can have an impact as community leaders.

Designed to meet JACL's as well as the Nikkei community's future leadership needs, the Washington, D.C. Leadership Program seeks to motivate participants to assume leadership roles in the community and to advocate JACL's role as a community based national organization.

Program participants will meet with legislators, lobbyists, and administrators throughout the weeklong workshop and observe and explore leadership and decision-making in action.

Alan Nishi of Stockton, JACL national secretary/treasurer and a 1985 participant of the program, said,

"The Washington Leadership Program motivates people to get involved in the JACL and their community, and stresses that an individual active in the JACL can make a difference."

JACL Leadership Roles

"In the last three years, nine Leadership Program participants have served or are currently serving on the National Board or as chair of a national committee in the JACL," added Priscilla Ouchida of Sacramento, a 1987 Program participant and JACL national vice president for general operations. "This is indicative of the success of the program . . . I encourage the dis-

For the Record

In Bill Marutani's March 24, 1989 "East Wind" column, some copy was placed out of order. At the end of the first column of type, the next line following should be the fifth line from the bottom of the second column. After this, the sequence starts from the top of the second column. P.C. regrets any confusion this may have caused.

Also, in the March 10, 1989 P.C., Joanne Bertsche's article on page 4, "Pima Indians Recall Injustice Against Japanese Americans," should have credited it to the newsletter of the Evanston/North Shore YWCA of Evanston, Ill., of which Bertsche is the community programs director.

Hawaii Wants Feb. 19 as Day of Remembrance

HONOLULU—The Hawaii House of Representatives unanimously adopted a resolution March 2, giving special recognition to Feb. 19 as a day to remind Hawaii residents of the World War II relocation and internment of Americans and resident aliens of Japanese ancestry.

Last month, the House passed a bill to prevent redress payments from being considered an income in determining eligibility for Hawaii public assistance.

NAKAJO

Continued from Page 1

meeting with the Office of the Chancellor, thereby bringing the issue to the California State University system level.

Dr. Frank Gerry of the Office of the Chancellor's employee relations division told the *Hokubei Mainichi* that the grievant has 21 days to file papers with the Los Angeles office.

If the union decides to continue the case, it will meet with a representative of the Southern California office. If the union elects not to represent Nakajo, then he may represent himself, said Gerry.

Nakajo's union representative has been unavailable for comment on both the SFSU decision and the possibility of an appeal.

Books to P.C.

Briefly Noted by Harry K. Honda

CEREMONY AND SYMBOLISM IN THE JAPANESE HOME. Michael Jeremy & M.E. Robinson. Photographs by Urata Hoichi. Univ. of Hawaii Press, Honolulu, HI 96822; hard, 196pp, \$35. (1988)

As Westerners, co-authors Michael Jeremy (the banker with a doctorate from Hitotsubashi University in anthropology) and M.E. Robinson (lecturer in geography in England with his doctorate from Australia National University) address the fascinating subject of *ie* (house, household) they found unique to Japan. And because they saw the outward signs of *ie* in modern Japan on the decline, they turned to a small town (Tōno) in Iwate prefecture in the mountainous Tohoku, a community famous for preserving traditional folklore, to study the *ie* concept.

The true-blue photographs by Urata Hoichi, helpful diagrams (for instance: the seating arrangement at a wedding), tables (Table 1: the three forms for addressing members of the family) and a glossary-index (topics alphabetized plus the kanji rendition) combine to make this thoughtful book of value for one who is more than casually into Japanese culture.

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Photo By Alvina Lew

NEW RETIREMENT HOME—About 1,000 people attended the dedication service of the new Keiro Japanese Retirement Home on Boyle Ave. between 3rd and 4th Sts. in Los Angeles on March 17. Pictured above in a ribbon cutting ceremony are (l-r) Consul General of Japan Hiromoto Seki; Fred Wada; Jim Mitsumori; George Aratani; and Edwin Hiroto.

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LEC Update

Letters Relevant to Redress Progress Exchanged

By Rita Takahashi
Acting Director, JACL-LEC Office

Four letters related to redress are commanding personal attention this week from JACLers and those pursuing for an expeditious implementation of the redress law.

A Contra View on Payment

(1) Letter (Feb. 20, 1989) by South Carolina Sen. Ernest F. Hollings, chair of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee (handling redress) explaining his opposition to monetary payment:

I opposed the enactment of the wartime reparations act because I believe we should not attach a monetary value to human suffering. How then do we monetize the suffering of, for instance, the soldier killed in action, or the black man who fought on the front line yet returned home to sit in the back of the bus? In contrast, I believe there can be no more meaningful and valuable compensation to internees than the solemn apology of the American people expressed by their Congress and the President.

With a \$1 billion federal budget deficit, and the competing pressures of adequately funding law enforcement activities and the war on drugs, I am not convinced that implementing this legislation is a wise and prudent decision.

Please write to Senator Hollings and express your views in support of redress. He has been receiving a tremendous amount of anti-redress mail.—RT.

A Letter in Contrast

(2) Letter (Feb. 28) from California Rep. Leon E. Panetta, chair of the

House Budget Committee, revealing his optimism for a faster funding:

... former President Reagan's budget request recommended \$20 million for reparations payments in fiscal year 1990. This proposed budget does not reflect his apparent commitment to the reparations legislation he signed into law last August.

Notwithstanding the Reagan Administration's pessimistic outlook for beginning to process claims, I will support efforts in the context of the FY1990 Budget Resolution to accommodate funding for the program at the rate closer to that contemplated under current law

LEC Letter to OPM

(3) Letter (Feb. 14) from this office to the U.S. Office Personnel Management, requesting how the new Administration plans to comply with the redress law with respect to those who were or are in government, and citing Sec. 103(a), which stipulates:

Each department and agency of the United States government shall review with liberality, giving full consideration to the findings of the Commission and the statement of the Congress set forth in section 2(a), any application by an eligible individual for the restitution of any position, status, or entitlement lost in whole or in part because of any discriminatory act of the United States Government against such individual which was based upon the individual's Japanese ancestry and which occurred during the evacuation, relocation, and internment period.

OPM's Procedures Explained

(4) And, the response (March 10) from OPM general counsel James M.

Strock assuring federal agencies are to be as liberal as possible as set forth in the redress law:

This is in reply to (the JACL-LEC) letter of Feb. 14 concerning the implementation of Public Law 100-383. In particular, you expressed an interest in procedures the Office of Personnel Management may have established to comply with subsection 103(a) of this law. This provision directs federal agencies to be as liberal as possible when considering claims for restitution from individuals of Japanese descent based on injustices suffered under United States policies and programs during World War II.

I do not foresee a need for OPM to establish additional procedures in response to PL 100-383. This agency has long administered laws authorizing preferential benefits, with respect to federal employment, as restitution for individuals of Japanese descent whom the United States subjected to internship or other unreasonable hardship during World War II.

Public Law 82-545, approved July 15, 1982, granted special consideration in establishing federal employee pay rates for certain Japanese Americans who were employed in the postal field service of classified civil service at the time this law was enacted and previously were denied federal employment as a result of United States policies during World War II.

Later, Public Law 86-782, approved Sept. 14, 1960, amended PL 82-545, so that those federally-employed Japanese Americans who qualified for salary increases based on lost employment opportunities during World War II would also receive extra credit for purposes of determining an employee's leave accrual category and for purposes of the Civil Service Retirement System.

More recently, under Public Law 95-382, enacted in 1978, Japanese Americans who retire under the Civil Service Retirement System (or the Federal Employees Retirement System for employees hired after 1983) became eligible to receive retirement service credit for any period during which they were at least 18 years of age and were interned by the United States. This credit is provided even if the internment preceded rather than interrupted federal employment and regardless of when federal service commenced. Normal employee retirement contributions are not charged for any such period of service credit. In 1983, Public Law 98-129 extended the same benefit to Aleut employees who had been interned.

Any individuals who are currently federal employees should, if they have not previously done so, ask their personnel office to verify periods of wartime internment and to determine the creditability of such periods for purposes of tenure, leave accrual, and eligibility for retirement and post-retirement retention of health and life insurance. Those who are already separated or retired from federal service (or the surviving spouse or child of a deceased federal employee who was subject to internment) should, if they have not previously claimed internment benefits, request assistance from OPM.

A follow-up letter asking for contact names and specific procedures was written to OPM. When received, the significant contents will be reported.—RT.

Upcoming French Camp JACL Activities Include a Picnic, Scholarships and a Dance

FRENCH CAMP, Calif. — The French Camp Chapter of the JACL will hold its 40th annual community picnic at Micke Grove Park on Sunday, April 23, at 11 a.m.

Besides a day of relaxation, entertainment, and fun, the program promises many exciting and hilarious games for all ages. Beer and soft drinks will be provided. Tickets for door prizes will be distributed until 1 p.m. at the entrance gate.

Also, the French Camp JACL scholarship is now open to all high school seniors whose parents are members of the chapter. Another scholarship is available to students attending Manteca East Union High School. The form is available from Carl Yamasaki, scholarship chairman, at (209) 982-

0638. Finally, the chapter will hold its Mid-Spring Dance on Saturday, May 6, at the Stockton Buddhist Church Social Hall on Shimizu Dr., from 8 p.m. to midnight.

Tickets are \$7.50 each and music will be furnished by the "Swing Tone Band." This fundraising event is chaired by Katy Komure and Hide Morinaka. They will be assisted by:

Hiroshi Shinmoto, treas.; Elsie Kagehiro, Toyo Foundation; Lydia Ota, refreshments; Nancy Natsuhara and Fumi Asano, tickets; Mats Murata, security; Tom Natsuhara and Carl Yamasaki, set up; Hide Morinaka and Tom Natsuhara, happy hour; Mits Kagehiro and George Komure, tickets; Hide Morinaka, corres.; and Lydia Ota, pub.

Stanford-Japan Center Under Construction

KYOTO — Formal dedication of the new Stanford-Japan Center in Kyoto is expected Nov. 12 while classes will begin in September, it was announced by Prof. Thomas Heller, director of overseas studies at Stanford.

A 2½-story, \$3.3 million facility is being built in a residential cultural preservation district owned by a Japanese family with Stanford ties.

Also providing academic leadership for the center is Dan Okimoto of the political science department, author of *American in Disguise* (1971).

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FLORIN DOR—Presenting Rep. Robert Matsui with a petition containing over 2,000 signatures urging more redress appropriations are Twila Noguchi & Tommy Kushi at Florin JACL's Feb. 18 Day of Remembrance.

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EDITORIAL OF THE PACIFIC CITIZEN:

Pacific Citizen: Your Newspaper

OWNERSHIP OF this newspaper rests with the Japanese American Citizens League, a nationwide civic organization. A board representing the membership, chaired by an appointee of the president, oversees operations. This board held its annual meeting earlier this month in Los Angeles.

The board's actions and decisions were reported in a recent issue. Among other matters, it reaffirmed P.C.'s policy of publishing news and commentary of interest to all Japanese Americans. In other words, it is not a JACL house organ.

What was not reported was P.C.'s Catch 22 problem that came under intense board discussion. The problem, in brief, is this:

Pacific Citizen needs to be made of more compelling interest to its readers. This shortcoming is not unique; many publications face it. To reach the goal of greater interest it needs to publish a larger number of stories and more interesting features. To do this, more newspaper space and more staff are needed. To justify the cost of more space and staff, more advertising must be sold. But to sell more advertising the newspaper must increase its circulation. To increase its circulation, particularly among non-members, it must be made of more compelling interest.

Thus, an endless circle of difficult problems is involved. Each depends for solution on the solution of other problems. The staff and the board have been wrestling with them, but they need help from readers, the real "owners" of this publication. They can do many things to help, the first of which is to bring Pacific Citizen to the attention of potential subscribers and advertisers. Every little bit helps.

Correction

Editorial Note: The editorial appearing in the March 3, 1989 P.C. omitted one word, which may have caused confusion. The final paragraph should have read: "But the victory is not complete so long as every detail of the Civil Liberties Act, including payment of sums that are included in the law is *not* carried out. We must continue to strive to make August 10 truly a Day of Commemoration."

LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

HANK TANAKA

Dayton to Initiate First Workshop

A long range plan is a necessary step towards mapping a course for the future of JACL. Some refer to it as a "dream" or "wish list." Set within the parameters of our JACL mission statement, a long range plan will help us articulate JACL's goals.

The first step is to review our present mission statement. Is it still a viable statement, given the environmental changes we can anticipate in the next five years?

What's our membership market? Is anti-Asian violence and hate a continuing trend? What effect will English-only legislation have on JACL?

What is the trend of cross-cultural marriages?

Individual opinions as to JACL's strengths and weaknesses will be obtained in advance from participants of the long range planning workshops. This collective information will help participants to engage in in-depth discussion of JACL's current mission statement and to identify and prioritize JACL goals.

The results from each district workshop will be distinct and unique. It is expected that common interests and concerns will also emerge for the workshops.

The first district long range planning workshop will be held in Dayton, Ohio, at the spring meeting of the Midwest District on April 14 & 15, 1989.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**Social Security & Redress**

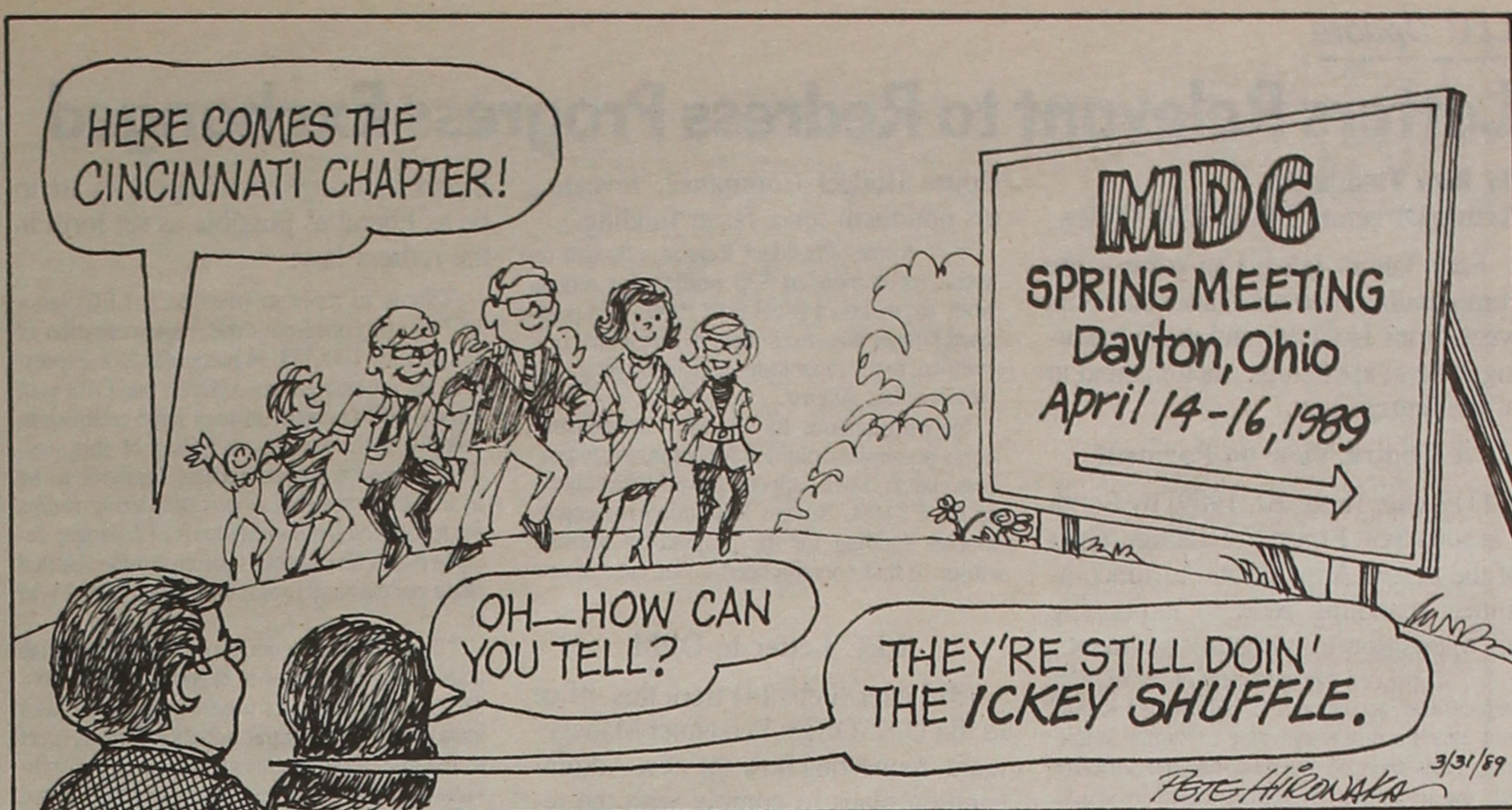
Recently, I was asked to address the question of how receipt of the \$20,000 redress payment will affect other benefits, specifically benefits covered by the Social Security Act.

According to Public Law 100-383, payments for Japanese Internees, redress payments are not to be included as income or resources for purposes of determining eligibility to receive benefits under Federal or federally assisted means-tested pro-

grams. This would cover Social Security Benefits for Old Age, Survivors, and the Disabled; Supplemental Security Income (SSI); aid to families with dependent children (AFDC); and medical assistance (Medi-Cal).

As more information on this subject becomes available, it will be disseminated.

IRENE KISHITA
District Manager
Social Security Admins.
Los Angeles

**FROM THE FRYING PAN**

BILL HOSOKAWA

MIS Men: Not Unknown, But . . .

Business appointments kept me from attending the most interesting event in town recently during a quick trip to Los Angeles. That would be the reunion of Nisei who served in the U.S. Army Military Intelligence Service in the Pacific Theater during World War II.

It was billed as a workshop. In reality it was a recounting of the largely untold experiences of Nisei translators and combat interrogators on a front that extended from the Aleutians to New Guinea, from Burma and China to the surrender ceremonies on the battleship Missouri in Tokyo Bay.

A younger generation may be inclined to dismiss the stories as old soldiers' tales. That would border on sacrilege. These Nisei helped make dramatic history and win a war, and the part they played is largely unknown. Even the participants themselves know little of what happened in another sector. Thus it was educational for an ex-GI who was sent to Australia and participated in the island-hopping drive toward Japan, to learn what other Nisei did in the China-Burma-India campaign.

Some 6,000 Japanese Americans were graduated from the Military Intelligence Service Language School. Its beginnings, in a make-shift classroom in an unused hangar at the Presidio of San Francisco, is a dramatic story in itself. John Aiso, a brilliant attorney who the Army with typical astuteness had assigned as a parts man in a motor pool, was put in charge of developing a curriculum. He and a handful of Nisei colleagues accomplished that in what must be viewed as a magnificent job of creating much from virtually nothing.

Not all of the 6,000 saw combat service, of course. Many were sent from the classrooms to the occupation of Japan. But all of them saw history. Some were in Yenan with the men who were to become the giants of Chinese communism, the likes of Mao Tse-tung.

Others were behind Japanese lines with Merrill's Marauders in Burma, in the jungles of New Guinea and with the first waves of troops invading Iwo Jima, Okinawa and other Pacific isles. Some were interpreters at war crimes trials in Manila and Tokyo, and on the

jail staffs at Sugamo where Tojo was imprisoned.

I caught up with the vets at their buffet dinner after the workshop and was able to absorb just a bit of the flavor of the occasion. I sensed a certain mild resentment that they had not shared the well-deserved recognition given their comrades of the 442nd who fought in Europe.

It's understandable, of course, that the Pentagon wouldn't want to publicize M.I.S. exploits while war raged, but that was a long time ago. Nowadays we hear repeatedly that the M.I.S. story is now being told "for the first time." That's not quite true. If it's any consolation, let me say a lengthy story about Nisei in intelligence service was read 25 years ago by hundreds of thousands of subscribers to the *American Legion Magazine*, the July 1964 issue to be exact. And perhaps there were earlier reports other than those published in the *Pacific Citizen* whose circulation, unfortunately, is limited. Nonetheless, the contributions of Nisei in military intelligence is a record that cries for additional notice.

EAST WIND

BILL MARUTANI

Déjà Vu, Again

SEVERAL COLUMNS BACK (Feb. 3) I commented that all Japanese names seemed to end in vowel; at least, I couldn't immediately think of any that ended in a consonant. Of course, there are *myōji*'s (family names) that do end in consonants. But not many; I suggest that consonants are limited to "n," based on the "un" in the Japanese "alphabet." A few years back we wandered into this same subject and backed ourselves into the same corner. *Déjà vu*, again.

ON THAT OCCASION, I was also reminded that one of our past national JACL presidents had a name that ended in a consonant: Frank F. Chuman. I understand that the *myōji* is written in *kanji* as *naka* (middle) and *uma* (horse). I would not have guessed that the combination would be pronounced "Chuman;" I would have guessed "naka-uma" or "chū-ba" as more likely.

Rest assured: it's "Chuman."

COME TO THINK of it, there was a family by the name of Zaiman in Chicago. They owned and operated a jewelry store under that name. That was in the mid-40s. I wonder if they still have the boutique operation in the Windy City? Japanese names being what they are—which is to say they can be written every which way and

then pronounced every other way—I have no idea how "Zaiman" is properly written in *kanji*. Were I to concoct a combination, and bearing in mind the elite type of business that the family was then engaged, I'd put together *zai* ("wealth" as in "zaisan") and add thereto *man*, meaning "ten thousand" or the one for "fullness."

The mid-40s being a period not too long after inmates had been released from the camps, I had admired how this particular family settled in Chicago and proceeded to open up a jewelry store.

FROM SACRAMENTO a reader wrote that her family name was "Keikoan." That's a new one for me. I have no idea whether the name is written with three *kanji* or just two, like most of us. (Ed. Note: It's three.) There are a few three-*kanji myōji*, such as "Hasegawa" and a few with just one, such as "Mori" (grove of trees). If there be anyone out there who can claim a *myōji* with four *kanji*, please step forward and identify yourself. You win.

SPEAKING OF "MORI," it seems to me that somewhere I once read that in Japan's feudal society the common folks did not have *myōji*, that only the

privileged nobility bore family names. Memory becomes even more murky, but I thought I also read—or perhaps I overheard someone state—that when the peons were permitted to adopt *myōji*, that the majority of them looked to elements in nature. With a name such as "Maru-tani," meaning "round valley," you can readily ascertain from this whether my ancestors were the privileged or from the peons. I find this fable fascinating, and if I locate a book on the subject, I surely will acquire it.

Incidentally, when the peons did not have *myōji* of their own, what did they use to identify themselves as distinguished from others? Social security numbers as we use on almost everything in the United States today?

IN SOME JITEN (dictionaries) there is an abbreviated appendix of Japanese family names. There appear to be little rhyme or reason for the pronunciation of many names, no discernable rules—at least that I can pick up. Take something basic such as the "Yamato" for old Japan. No, it does not consist of *yama* (mountain) as logic might indicate. It is written *dai* (big) *wa* (peace), and pronounced "Yamato," not "daiwa."

Déjà vu, again.

Theater Review

EW Players' 'Webster Street Blues' Captures Sansei Life

By Velina Hasu Houston

Webster Street Blues, which opened March 15 and is currently running at East West Players in Los Angeles, is an entertaining collection of vignettes about the lives of four Sansei living in San Francisco's Japanese American community in the early 1970s.

Craig is a shy young man who has maintained the heart to be able to fall in love, although his mind is obsessed with sex—specifically, with losing his virginity before his number comes up in the Vietnam draft lottery. His anti-ethical best friend, Dean, has had his heart eaten up in the streets. A provocatively handsome, chauvinistic fellow, Dean hides behind a street-wise, "jive-talking" exterior. He is actually insecure and angry, shrouded with a lack of esteem for which he compensates by being a sexually-oriented braggart and sexual counsel for the less physically blessed Craig.

Sherrie, meanwhile, is a gorgeous, neurotic, seemingly "space cadet" actress who works with Gayle at Gayle's father's cafe. Sherrie lives with (yet another) White man and has been known for subjecting her parents to various embarrassments, these propagated by Mrs. Nogata, the classic Nisei community gossip, an off-stage character. While Mrs. Nogata is telling the world that Sherrie is illegitimately pregnant, Dean is propagating the theory that Sherrie always dates White men because she intentionally wants to "marry out."

Finally, Gayle is a militant anti-war political activist. She also believes Sherrie is trying to marry out, and feels that White men are only trying to subjugate Japanese American women to fulfill their geisha fantasies. Gayle isn't afraid of interracial dating with

"third world men," however (she once slept with a Black American fellow), nor is she afraid of being wire-tapped. She is only afraid of being in love; it is something for which she does not have time. Craig is in love with her, but it is a love that must go unrequited, despite his efforts to get to know her better by attending anti-war demonstrations with her.

Thus, the playwright, the late Warren Sumio Kubota, presents us with interesting characters who possess meaningful passions. Even Dean, with his chauvinistically racist theories and preoccupation with sexuality, is imbued with integrity in the sense that he is of "the neighborhood" and cares about it. Moreover, each of the characters and their various interactions are blessed with outright, sometimes even bawdy humor that either creates similar or embarrassed laughter with the audience. The characters' problems and tales are entertaining, but the play's structural weakness, length and overabundance of dialogue weigh down the play in the overall sense.

Plays do not necessarily have to adhere to Aristotelian dramatic principles to satisfy. Plays that attempt to convey a dramatic story through a variant structure, such as vignettes, often work. This one works because it is entertaining and because it does enlighten us, in a sense, to the ways of (some) Sansei lives and, to a lesser degree, the moral dilemma of the Asian American going to fight Asians in Vietnam. (Throughout the play, Craig is tense about his draft number coming up. It does and he is shipped out to war. These are years of accelerated maturation for Craig.) In addition, the play works because the playwright is addressing the fabric of the Sansei

experience in regards to the Bay Area and the Vietnam period. But, in other ways, the play leaves the soul unsatisfied.

The play lacks a true event. It is about many things, but there is no conclusive story that fully enlightens us to the needs and desires that collectively represent the Sansei perspective that the playwright explored. The closest thing to a protagonist is Craig, selected because he is the only character who goes through major revelations. Most definitely, his is the only character whose revelation occurs of something we can grasp—his time at war. Gayle changes dramatically, too, but the forces that bent her in a new direction are never told or dealt with in a dramatic fashion.

The vignettes also tend to ramble with dialogue, becoming a bit excessive at times, and the pace of the play tends to slow down at these points of excess. It appears that the playwright may have intended to use Craig as a thread through the various vignettes which he wrote. He is fairly successful at this attempt, but more adherence to this may have resulted in a much tighter, more dramatic effort.

The work remains important because of its cultural value in exposing slices of Bay Area Sansei life, its engaging characters, its wonderful humor and its anti-war politics. The Asian American playwright has not only a literary/theatrical responsibility, but also a cultural responsibility to examine his culture and document its fabric like other ethnic minority groups have done over the last century. Kubota succeeds admirably in this vein. *Webster Street Blues* is a concept play that attempts to capture the routine



Photo By Chris Komuro

WEBSTER STREET BLUES—The cast of East West Players' production of Warren Kubota's *Webster Street Blues* are (seated) Jon Miyasaki, Susan Haruye Ioka, Yuji Okumoto and Marilyn Tokuda (background).

and sometimes culturally extraordinary fabric of Sansei life. The vignettes allow glimpses into four lives that incorporate elements of what society considers to be model-minority traits and many traits that society would never attribute to Japanese America. But perhaps they will now.

The cast—Susan Haruye Ioka, Marilyn Tokuda, Yuji Okumoto and Jon Miyasaki—presented strong ensemble work that was directed with a sensitive and precise eye by Nobu McCarthy. The actors exhibited won-

derful comic timing—especially Tokuda and Ioka—and played off of one another with clarity. It was heartening to see the return of these artists (and, for some, their first times) at East West Players after a long, somewhat politically imposed hiatus. The production signified the beginning of a new life for Asian American theater in Los Angeles which one hopes will sustain in the rich tradition begun by such plays as *Webster Street Blues*.

—For details on playing times, dates, etc., see the page 6 Calendar listings.

Theater Review

Mark Taper's 'Sansei': Sans Play

By Velina Hasu Houston

Before its current production of *Sansei*, the Mark Taper Forum was one of several large Los Angeles-area regional theaters which had not presented a major Asian Pacific American play on its main stages. Theater usually does much to reflect the life in its communities; not so, apparently, in Los Angeles, where the largest number of persons of Japanese descent outside of Japan reside.

Sansei is meant to be a play that chronicles the cultural amalgamation and homogenization of Sansei, third-generation Japanese Americans. The work means to tell the story via the lives of four Sansei—Dan Kuramoto, Johnny Mori, June Okida (formerly Kuramoto) and Danny Yamamoto—members of the popular band

Hiroshima. The construction includes monologues by four actors—Marc Hayashi, Nelson Mashita, Lane Nishikawa and Natsuko Ohama—who represent the Hiroshima members plus the music of the band itself. The result? Wonderful music, bad monologues (read: no play).

Sansei was to be an artistic, cultural victory for Asian Pacific Americans (especially for the Japanese American artists who have struggled to be part of the American mainstream theater community for so long), but it amounts to a dismal (un)theatrical effort comprised of moving music surrounded by piles of words strung together by some unknown entity.

A writer's credit is lacking from *Sansei*—aptly so because the writing is definitely missing from the play.

Sansei is billed thusly: "Created and Performed by Hiroshima; Developed and Directed by Robert Egan." It is as if Egan set out to drive a car with an engine put together by people who know nothing about putting together engines (they know a lot about cars, but the engine takes some expertise to put together properly and palatably). The car may start, but it is not going to drive very well and it certainly is not going to take anybody anywhere—especially to a meaningful destination of any kind.

The Taper has short-changed the very Asian Pacific American identity that it set out to nurture by improperly developing this piece over the last several years. One would think the end-result could have been much more satisfying and considered. If this project is to represent the litmus test for the Taper doing Asian Pacific American work, one must hope that its audiences will be extremely generous.

The cast, familiar to this critic, are fine actors, but their talent is not reflected in this production. Instead of being given a true play in which to exhibit their talents, they must run a mechanical game plan which disallows reflections of the humanity that one knows is lurking beneath the badly-written words, that one can hear in June Okida's koto playing or Johnny Mori's taiko drumming. Sadly, at times the characters register as caricatures, mere filler to which one cannot grow attached. There are no revelations or growth that occur before our eyes. The actors struggle to breathe life into mundane monologues that do not manage to organically cohere either to each other or to the music. The structure is artificially superimposed and it fails.

Japanese Americans, thirsty to see some genuine representation of their lives on a large theater's mainstage, cooed approval of certain comments made in the show and clapped. One cannot blame them. An event of this kind has been long overdue. Perhaps, for this reason, they can forgive the

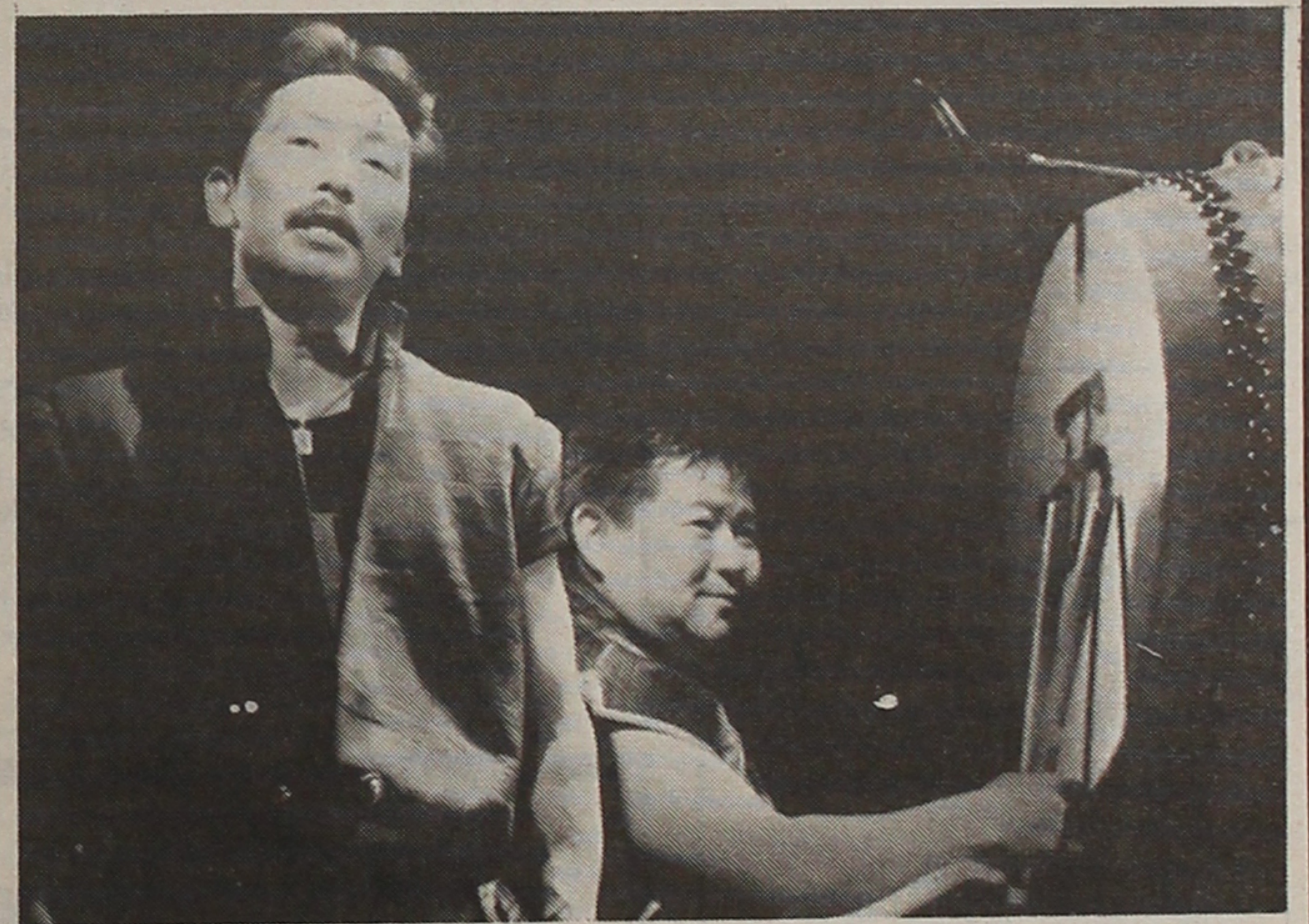


Photo By Jay Thompson

SANSEI—Lane Nishikawa (foreground) plays Johnny Mori as Johnny Mori plays the taiko in a scene from the Mark Taper Forum's *Sansei*.

dull presentation of the stories and the apparently misguided development of the project. Certainly, it is a relief to see the fresh subject matter finally tackled by a mainstream theater in such a grand fashion; but a disappointment that the writing is so lacking in substance, individuality or style. The result is that, if the music is taken away, what is left is a pile of words that hint of the stories they meant to tell, but are not very artfully put together. The monologues comprise a tedious diversion from the music; everybody is politely waiting for the main attraction to return to the stage.

As it is, Asian Pacific art is struggling to break into the mainstream community. It requires mainstream support of a superlative nature, which appears to have been lacking in this effort. The Taper project's message, however, was clear: the Sansei are acculturated, integrated and incredibly American.

Collectively, the Sansei may not agree with that assessment, especially since the formation of it was guided by a non-Japanese American. In *Sansei*, the music of Okida's koto and

Mori's taiko does more to express the soul of the Sansei and the ghost of their heritage than all of the words of the so-called "play" combined.

Dan Kuramoto's character says in the show that he feels a great responsibility to communicate. Yes. Communicating the history of a generation of Japanese Americans is a great responsibility that is not honorably and genuinely dealt with in this Taper project. Still, it is an evening to experience—as a Hiroshima concert where there is not enough great music. The band presents a wonderful blend of different styles of music, representing a fusion that may be considered a trademark of young Japanese Americans. The only failing of the band was in the singing; the substantive lyrics of many of the songs were lost as lead singer Machun did not project or articulate the words so that they could be heard or understood.

—For details on playing times, dates, etc., see the page 6 Calendar listings.

Velina Hasu Houston, a writer, poet and playwright, authored the plays *Asa Ga Kimashita* and *Tea*.



1000 Club Roll

(Year of Membership Shown)
 * Century; ** Corp/Silver; *** Corp/Gold;
 **** Corp/Diamond; L Life; M Memorial
The 1988 Totals1,931 (842)
1989 Summary (Since Nov. 30, 1988)
 Active (previous total)558 (34)
 Total this report: #13 91 (0)
 Current total649
 Life, C/Life, Memorial total (34)

March 6-10, 1989 (91)
 Alameda: 20-Mike M Yoshimine.
 Berkeley: 25-Hiroshi Kanda.
 Boise Valley: 16-Chickie Hayashida, 34-Seichi Hayashida, 16-Roy M Oyama.
 Chicago: 19-Shigeru Hashimoto, 15-Gumpe Honda, 32-Calvin Ishida, 7-Jane B Kaihatsu, 20-Seichi Konzo, 18-John Takemoto.
 Cleveland: 3-Dr Felix Arakaki, 3-Min Ishige, 4-Mas Iyama, 2-Beverly H Kerecman, 2-Mark D Kerecman.
 Contra Costa: 8-Jack Imada, 6-Dr Raymond Matsunaga, 8-Chiyoko Otagiri, 19-Virginia Fumi Tomita.
 Detroit: 4-Ben Oshika.
 Diablo Valley: 13-Tom Shimizu.
 Downtown Los Angeles: 40-Sho Iino.
 Fresno: 29-Dr Hideki Shimada, 16-Dr Izumi Taniguchi, 10-Robert Tsubota.
 Gardena Valley: 16-George S Kamikawa, 14-George Watai.
 Greater L.A. Singles: 27-Joe J Fujimoto.
 Honolulu: 12-Takeshi Yoshihara.
 Hoosier: 1-Glen Raiger.
 Marin County: 8-George T Shimizu.
 Marina: 34-Sam S Miyashiro, 8-Kiichi J Namba.
 Marysville: 11-Joe Kobayashi.
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 Milwaukie: 19-Andrew Hasegawa, 25-Taka Naru.
 Monterey: 20-Haruo Pet Nakasako.
 New York: 25-Jack K Kunitzugu.
 Omaha: 13-Mitsuo Kawamoto*, 38-Em Nakadoi, 41-Robert Nakadoi*.
 Orange County: 4-Gordon Yamamoto.
 Philadelphia: 29-Dr K Stanley Nagahashi.
 Placer County: 20-Helen Otow, 1-Koso Take-moto.
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 Saint Louis: 3-John E Hayashi, 23-George Sato.
 San Benito: 28-Tony Masami Yamaoka.
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 San Fernando Valley: 26-K David Yoshioka.
 San Francisco: 17-Akio J Mochizuki, 29-Harry Y Tono.
 San Jose: 23-Kiyoshi Higashi.
 San Luis Obispo: 18-Ben Dohi.
 Seattle: 21-Dr Frank T Hon, 8-Ayako Okubo Hurd, 30-Fred Y Imanishi.
 Selanoco: 26-Alice Hashimoto, 26-Tom Hashi moto.
 Snake River: 26-Harry S Fukiagi, 22-Arthur Hamanishi.
 Sonoma County: 26-George I Hamamoto, 3-Ken Nishikawa.
 Stockton: 35-Henry T Kusama, 8-Grace R Nagai, 25-Dr Katsuo Takei.
 Twin Cities: 18-George Ono.
 Venice-Culver: 10-Y George Kodama, 12-Dr Frank H Nakano, 28-Hitoshi Mike Shimizu.
 Washington, DC: 20-Ben F Kitshima, 8-Ona May Miyamoto, 12-Seiko N Wakabayashi.
 West Los Angeles: 20-John Y Toshiyuki.
 National: 6-Masi Nihei.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

DETROIT
 ■ April 8—Sixth Annual Rededication Dinner of the American Citizens for Justice, Southfield Hilton, 17017 Nine Mile Rd. Cocktails: 6 pm. Dinner: 7 pm. Keynote Speaker: Dr. Joy Cherian, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. RSVP by March 25. Info: Dave Fukuzawa, 313 557-2772.

LOS ANGELES AREA
 ■ Present—April 2—"Longing for Home," an exhibition of recent works by Sunwook R. Park, Pacific Asia Museum Foyer Gallery, 46 N. Los Robles Ave., Pasadena. Info: 818 449-2742.
 ■ Present—April 23—East West Players present Warren Kubota's *Webster Street Blues*, East West Playhouse, 4424 Santa Monica Blvd. Fri. and Sat. evenings, 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. Info: 213 660-0366.
 ■ Present—May 7—AJA 4, an exhibit at the JACCC, 244 S. San Pedro St. Tues.—Fri.: noon—5 pm. Sat. & Sun.: 11 am—4 pm. Closed Mons. Free. Info: 213 628-2725.
 ■ Present—April 23—"Framed: A Video Installation" by Bruce and Norman Yone-moto, Long Beach Museum of Art, 2300 E. Ocean Blvd., Long Beach. Admission: \$1 donation. Info: 213 439-2119.
 ■ Present—April 23—"Masami Teraoka: Waves and Plagues," the mainland-premiere exhibition of 33 new works by Masami Teraoka, Long Beach Museum of Art, 2300 E. Ocean Blvd. Admission: \$1 donation. Info: 213 439-2119.
 ■ Present—May 7—Mark Taper Forum presents Hiroshima in *Sansai*, 135 N. Grand Ave. Tickets: 213 410-1062 or 714 634-1300. Info: 213 972-7373 F.
 ■ April 2—The New Otani Hotel & Garden 1989 Cultural Program presents a demonstration of the Sogetsu School of Ikebana, 2-3 pm, in the lobby level. Info: 213 629-1200, ext. 53.
 ■ April 8 & 9—"Hanamatsuri Celebration," JACCC, 244 S. San Pedro St. Activities include screening of film *The Harp of Burma* (April 8 only), 11:30 am and 4:30 pm. Movie tickets: \$6. Other festivities beginning at 2 pm: Hanamatsuri Buddhist Service, Zendo and West Covina Taiko performance, Koyasan Drum and Bugle Corps; 11:30 am—5 pm, food booths, games and activities for children. Info: 628-2725.
 ■ April 9—Fundraiser for Rose Ochi, candidate for L.A. Community College Board Seat #2, at the home of Monterey Park City Councilwoman Judy Chu and attorney Michael Eng, 712 Bataan Pl., Monterey Park, 2-4 pm. Cost: \$25/ea. RSVP and info: 213 387-2255.
 ■ April 9—"Young People Bringing About

Change," the 4th Annual International Youth Speech Festival, 2-4 pm, 2741 Sunset Blvd., sponsored by Reiyukai America Association. Info: 213 413-1771.

ORANGE COUNTY
 ■ April 10-14—UC Irvine presents Asian Week 1989, "East Within West: Coming Together," a week-long celebration of Asian culture. Info: 714 856-7215.

SAN FRANCISCO AREA
 ■ April 5-8—"Visions for a New Decade," the 1989 Asian American Journalists Association National Convention, Hyatt Regency Hotel at the Embarcadero. Info: 415 346-2051.
 ■ April 8—"J-Town Revue," AMC Kabuki Theatres in Japantown. Proceeds to go towards the Japanese Cultural and Community Center. Volunteers & info: 415 567-5505.

SAN JOSE AREA
 ■ April 8—Cherry Blossom Festival honoring Cupertino's sister city of Toyokawa, Japan, 10 am—5 pm, Cupertino Civic Center, Cupertino. Special attractions: Japanese food, music, dance, art fashions, exhibits, martial arts and the San Francisco Taiko Dojo Band.

SEATTLE
 ■ Present—April 22—"Surinomo," early 19th century Japanese woodblock prints, Honeychurch Antiques, 1008 James St., Mon.—Sat., 10 am—6 pm. Info: 206 622-1225.
 ■ Present—April 7—Art exhibit by Shinzaburo Takeda, 3rd floor, El Centro de la Raza, 2524 16th Ave. S. Opening reception: March 30, 6-8 pm, jointly hosted by the consulate general of Japan, the JAFL, consulate of Mexico and El Centro de la Raza. Regular hours: Mon., Wed. & Fri., 9 am—6 pm. Tues. & Thurs., 9 am—9 pm. Sat., 11 am—4 pm. Info: 206 329-2974.

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JACL PULSE

CCDC, NCWNPDC & PSWDC

• Tri-district meeting, hosted by Placer County JACL, April 21-23, Peppermill Hotel/Casino, Reno, Nev. Pre-Registration Package: \$27.50/ea. (if received by April 1, 1989), includes registration, Friday night mixer and Saturday luncheon. Separate Fees: Registration, \$10/ea.; Friday night mixer, \$7.50/ea.; Saturday luncheon, \$15/ea. Send registration checks to: Northern California-Western Nevada Pacific District Council, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115. If staying at the hotel, room reservations must be made directly with the Peppermill (1-800-648-6992); tell reservation clerk that the reservation is for the JACL tri-district meeting. Room Rates: \$45 (single or double), standard; \$55 (single or double), tower. Extra person charge: \$10 per person per night. Info: George Kondo, 415 921-5225.

DIABLO VALLEY

• Discussion facilitated by Peggy Saika on the community response to the Stockton shooting, 8 pm, April 8, Rossmoor multi-purpose room #3. Info: 415 531-7514.

MDC

• District meeting, April 14-16, Dayton, Ohio, Marriot Hotel. Friday: Evening reception. Saturday: Business Session, Long Range Workshop. Sunday: Morning business session. Info: MDC Office, 312 728-7170.

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

• Dinner to honor past JACL National Director Ron Wakabayashi, April 28, Hyatt Hotel on Union Square, San Francisco. Reception: 6 pm. Dinner: 7:30 pm. Cost: \$35/ea. Info: Neal Taniguchi, 415 921-5225.

PSWDC

• Fundraising theater outing to see jazz fusion band Hiroshima's play *Sansei*, 8 pm, April 7, Mark Taper Forum, Los Angeles. Sponsored by the PSWDC Leadership Committee. Reception to follow. Tickets and info: John Saito, 213 626-4471 or B.J. Watanabe, 714 779-4140.

PHILADELPHIA

• Annual installation dinner, April 8, Mt. Laurel Hilton, Mt. Laurel, N.J. Keynote Speaker: Cressey Nakagawa. Tickets: \$25, adults; \$20, students and senior citizens 65 and over. Reservation deadline: March 30. Send checks made out to Philadelphia JACL to Mas Yamatani, 1925 Gibson Dr., Hatboro, PA 19040 or call 215 672-4082.

PUYALLUP VALLEY

• Aging & retirement seminar, rescheduled for April 22, 12:30-6 pm, Tacoma Buddhist Temple, 1717 S. Fawcett Ave. Topics: Retirement planning-transitions & adjustments; Health Insurance-nursing home, medicare; financial planning; budgets; tax & estate planning; and travel & other activities. Info: Paul Seto, 206 272-6758.

RENO

• Annual Scholarship Fund Teriyaki Dinner/Sushi Sale, April 16, noon-4 pm, Senior Citizen Center, 9th & Sutro, Reno. Info: Jane Yamamoto, 702 853-2741.

SAN DIEGO

• "How Do Sansei Deal with Stress?," a panel discussion, 2 pm, April 22, Kiku Gardens, 1260 3rd Ave., Chula Vista. Co-sponsored by the Union of Pan Asian Communities. Light refreshments and a tour of Kiku Gardens: 1:30 pm. Free. Info: 619 232-6454.

SAN JOSE

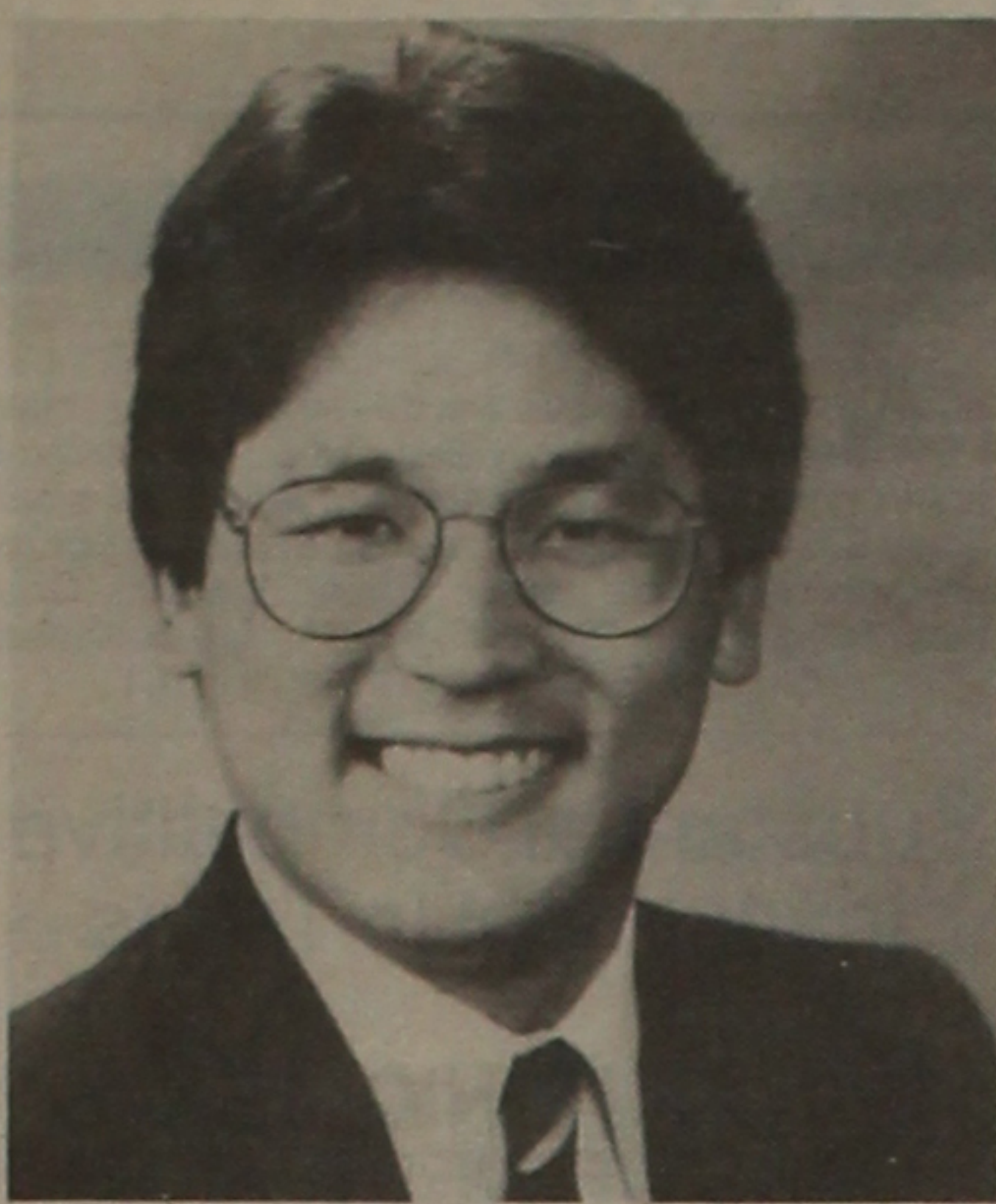
• Bridge Tournament, 7 pm, April 8, Fellowship Hall of Wesley United Methodist Church, 566 N. 5th St. Prizes will be awarded for junior, intermediate and major duplicate categories. Admission: \$5.

SOUTH BAY

• April Fool's Potluck/Dance, 7 pm, April 1, 2nd floor of the Pacific Business Bank, 510 W. Carson St., Carson, Calif. Admission: Potluck food item or \$10. RSVP and other info: Brenda, 213 515-5700 8:30 am-5:30 pm or Geri, 213 329-6875 (after 6 pm).

Items publicizing JACL events should be type-written (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.

THE NEWSMAKERS



KAY HIRAMINE

► **Kay K. Hiramine** of Pasadena, Calif. has joined Coldwell Banker's industrial real estate staff at Glendale. He had been a market data researcher since August, is a graduate of Occidental College and active with the La Cañada-La Crescenta YMCA.

► The Honolulu Symphony honored **Sen. Daniel Inouye**, grandson of Japanese immigrant sugar plantation workers and synonymous with 30 years of history of Hawaii statehood, at the opening of its spring season March 4 with a "Great American Salute" at the Iikai's Pacific Ballroom. With maestro Donald Johanos conducting, the program featured a rousing medley of American music, much of it personal favorites of the senator, who has been honorary chairman of the symphony since December 1986.

► **Tritia Toyota**, longtime KCBS-TV anchor on Action News at 6:00, has been also assigned to Action News at Noon since March 16, v.p./gen. mgr. Robert Hyland announced. One of Southern California's best-known TV journalists, Toyota has been news anchor since joining the station in 1985. Most recently, she co-anchored a prime-time documentary, "Racism: Screams of Hatred, Tears of Despair."

► **Dr. Linda Morimoto**, perennial chair of "Bohan" (Greater Little Tokyo Anti-Crime Assn.), was recognized by the Japanese Chamber of Commerce of Southern California at its New Year party and by the Los Angeles Police Dept. for her leadership in rallying the cooperation of Little Tokyo business people to fight crime in the area. "Since we cannot rely on police protection 100%, we must provide good security programs by ourselves to protect customer, the people and property," the physician said.

► **Mitsuhiro Shimizu**, 100, of Los Angeles, whose Asahi Shoe Store is the longest established retail business in Little Tokyo, was honored by his family at gala event at the Hyatt Regency in Anaheim Feb. 18. He was born in Wakayama, Japan, on Feb. 20, 1889, came to America in 1907 and settled in Pasadena. Besides his immediate family, wife and four children, 10 grandchildren and 25 great-grandchildren attended.

► **Clayton Fong**, 29, of Sacramento, who co-chaired the statewide Chinese American for Bush Campaign and a deputy appointments secretary for Gov. Deukmejian since December 1987, was recently appointed by President Bush as deputy associate director of Presidential Personnel on the White House staff.

► **Keizo Yoshida**, of San Francisco, president of Sumitomo Bank of California is the 1989-90 president of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce of Northern California.

► **Dr. Joan A. Otomo-Corgel**, a graduate from Fresno State, UCLA in dentistry, public health and health education, is staff periodontist at Rancho Los Amigos Hospital and Wadsworth V.A. Medical Center, Los Angeles. She also is clinical consultant for Cerritos J.C., West Los Angeles College, USC and Cypress College dental hygiene programs. She is also the first woman president of the Western Society of Periodontology.

► Two Nisei were reappointed by Calif. Gov. George Deukmejian in March to their respective statewide posts: (1) **Dr. Kenneth H. Ozawa**, 57, of Sacramento—Second District Medical Quality Review Committee, Board of Medical Quality Assurance. A graduate of Loma Linda University medical school in 1957, he has been in private practice in Sacramento since 1962, served on the MQA board since 1981. His term expires Sept. 1, 1991. (2) **Setzu Ota-Gee**, 54 of San Francisco—State Council on Developmental Disabilities. A social science graduate from San Francisco State in 1975, she is executive director for the Scientific Analysis Corp., a nonprofit, applied social research organization in San Francisco. Her term expires Jan. 1, 1992.



MAY MORI

► **May Mori** of Los Angeles, professionally known as Fujisumi Fujima, was elected Mar. 15 to the board of directors of the Japanese American Cultural and Community Board. The Seattle-born Nisei studied under Fukuko Yamamura, Issei pioneer in *bujo* Japanese dancing in Seattle, and upon graduation from the Univ. of Washington, trained with designated "Living National Treasure" Fujiko Fujima in Japan, and with Chiseyo Fujima in Los Angeles. Married to attorney Jun Mori, she will serve a three-year term, bringing the number to 44 directors who meet on the second Tuesdays to set JACCC policies. With a professional *shihan* rank in the Fujima School of Dance, she currently teaches at CSU-Los Angeles, UCLA and hold classes at JACCC.

► **Thomas Susumu Jono**, who grew up in Gardena and started his career 16 years ago as mail clerk in Gardena, became its postmaster at swear-in rites held Feb. 13

► **Tay Yoshitani**, 42, a Tokyo-born graduate from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point (1968), was appointed deputy executive director for maritime affairs for the Port of Los Angeles, a \$108,701 position which is subject to approval by the board of harbor commissioners and the Los Angeles City Council. He is currently president of Grand American Inc., Santa Monica, a real estate development and property management firm. During his five-year stint with the Army Corps of Engineers, he received an MBA from Harvard in 1975.

► **Kenichi Horie**, 50, who in 1962 became the world's first yachtsman to make a successful solo trans-Pacific voyage from Japan to San Francisco, is back, preparing to solo back to Japan on a new 2.8-meter long, 200-kg yacht. He plans to leave San Francisco on April 15. His original boat is enshrined in San Francisco's Maritime Museum.

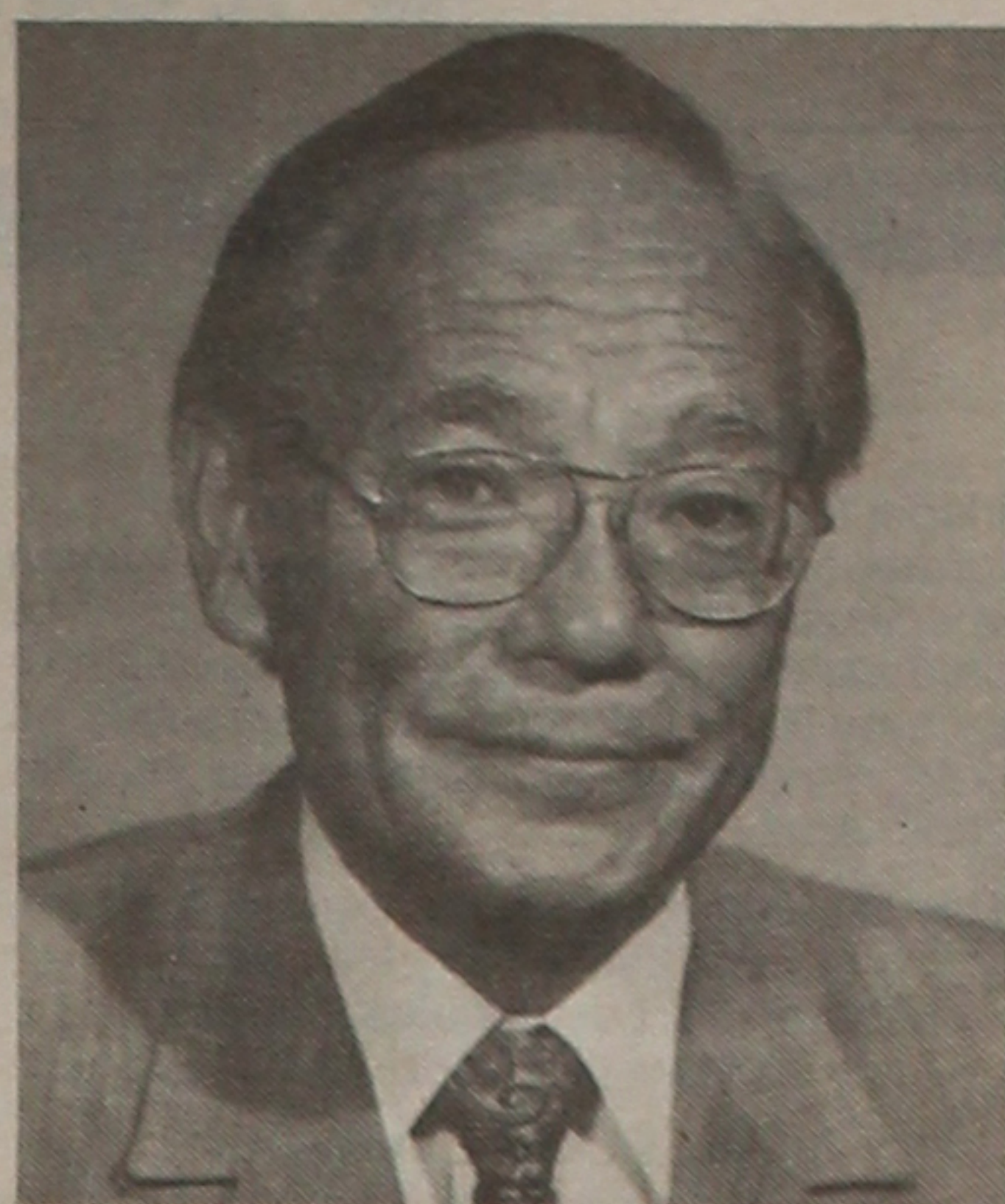
► Oxnard (Calif.) Mayor **Nao Takasugi** was elected to one of 20 member-at-large posts on the National Conference of Republican Mayors and Municipal Elected Officials, whose one-year terms began March 11. The executive group, formed in 1976, is the liaison and forum for some 4,100 locally elected Republican officials.

► **Rep. Patricia Saiki (R-Hawaii)** entered the Bethesda Naval Hospital on March 1 for an appendectomy, having returned two days earlier from Emperor Hirohito's funeral in Japan. She had accompanied President Bush and was part of the U.S. delegation. She told the press March 11 she was recovering well and expected to be "back in the saddle" that week.

► **Tom Nakagawa**, candidate for the Sacramento County auditor/controller in 1990, recently appeared at a Filipino political action coalition luncheon and was assured support from Terri Burns, local Democratic leader, and the Rev. Dr. Tony Ubalde, FILPAC founder.

► **Sen. Daniel K. Inouye (D-Hawaii)** is among ten Americans who will receive this year's Horatio Alger Award May 10 at the Washington Hilton. The award is presented to distinguished Americans who have overcome personal hardship to achieve "remarkable success in their chosen field."

► **Sylvia Watanabe**, a Honolulu writer now living in Grand Rapids, Mich., received a \$20,000 creative writing grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, Washington, to publish short stories. She was one of 96 recipients to win from a field of 1,881 applications received this past year. . . **Edwin Tanji**, who runs the one-man *Advertiser* bureau in Maui County, won the first prize \$1,000 award for his aggressive reporting and photo coverage of the Aloha Flight 243 disaster last year. His reportage was used worldwide by clients of Associated Press and United Press International.



TOGO TANAKA

► **Togo W. Tanaka**, 73, chairman of the Los Angeles-based Gramercy Enterprises, was honored March 12 at the annual conference of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, upon completion of his distinguished service of 10 years to the 12th District of the Federal Reserve System. His tenure spanned the period from Fed chairman G. William Miller, through eight years of Paul Volcker, to current chairman Alan Greenspan. Tanaka's successor is William Tooley, chairman/CEO of Tooley & Co. A graduate from UCLA with honors in 1936, Tanaka edited the *Kashu Mainichi* (1935-1936) and the *Rafu Shimpo* (1936-1942) English sections; published the American Technical Society publication (1945-1950), the Chicago Publishing Corp.'s *Scene* (1950-1955) and the L.A.-based School-Industrial Press (1955-1968). His career as a financial executive began in 1960 as president-CEO of his Gramercy Enterprise and since 1980 the chairman. A longtime Chicago/West L.A. JACLer, he was also P.C. Board chair during WWII.

► **Rep. Norman Y. Mineta (D-Calif.)** was named March 13 to the board of directors of the National Center for Policy Alternatives, a non-profit group founded in

1977 to help state leaders and citizen groups meet the challenges of the coming years. The NCPA focus now is to engage federal participation, Mineta noted.

► **C. Glen Higuchi** was elected Feb. 24 as president/chief executive officer of Pacific Business Bank, Carson, Calif., which was founded in 1984 and grown to \$50 million in assets. Their first branch was opened in December 1987 in Gardena. Former president/CEO **Mike I. Mitoma** had resigned because of "philosophical differences with the board concerning the future direction of the bank," the bank announced.

► **Paul T. Bannai**, 68, of Gardena was appointed March 13 by Gov. Deukmejian to the California Fair Employment and Housing Commission, succeeding **Harvey M. Horikawa**, also of Gardena. Owner of Bannai Realty Co. since 1958, the one-time Republican state assemblyman from 1973-1980 served briefly as CWRIC executive director and was chief memorial affairs director (1981-1986) with the U.S. Veterans Administration. His term expires Sept. 18, 1992.

► Fresno county farmer **David Masumoto** and **Art Coelho** are co-authors of "Home Bound", a collection of stories and poetry of the Central (San Joaquin) Valley.

► **David M. Shinoda**, Chicago-born Sansei who grew up in East Los Angeles and is a graduate of Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, was ordained Jan. 29 at Gardena Valley Baptist Church. He holds a B.A. in psychology from CSU Los Angeles, is married and has two children.

► **Betty Kozasa**, director of Volunteer Center of Los Angeles, will be recognized for her public service by the YWCA-Los Angeles at its annual leader luncheon April 27 at the Westin Bonaventure. She oversees five branches and programs that include Foster Grandparents, Second Careers and Court Referral. She founded the National Pacific-Asian Resource Center on Aging, has been active with the County Children's Service Commission, Angeles Girls Scout Council, Task Force on Sylmar Juvenile Hall and various neighborhood and city school study groups. (For luncheon reservation: Maura Walsh, 213/482-3470.)

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JAPAN SUMMER (Japanese inn & Western accom., Hkg ext.)	11 days	June 26
ENGLAND - IRELAND - SCOTLAND	17 days	Aug. 12
GRAND EUROPE VISTA (7 countries)	17 days	Sept. 25
JAPAN HOKKAIDO & HONG KONG	11 days	Sept. 25
EAST COAST & FALL FOLIAGE (2 Departure Dates: Oct. 2 and Oct. 9)	10 days	Oct. 9
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