



# pacific citizen

Established 1929 • National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League

Newsstand: 25¢  
(60¢ Postpaid)

#2,525 / Vol. 108, No. 14 /

ISSN: 0030-8579

941 East 3rd St. Suite 200, Los Angeles, CA 90013

(213) 626-6936

Friday, April 14, 1989

## AAJA Convenes in San Francisco House Subcommittee: \$250 Million for Redress

By George Johnston

**SAN FRANCISCO** — Over 500 professional journalists and journalism students gathered here last week for the second national convention of the Asian American Journalists Association.

The convention was held from April 5-8 and featured a job fair, journalism workshops, "Journalistic Jeopardy," and recognition of various journalists. Major speakers for the event were San Francisco Mayor Art Agnos, *Los Angeles Times* editor C. Shelby Coffey III, *San Diego Union* editorial assistant Vu Thanh Thuy and ABC News San Francisco Bureau chief Ken Kashiwahara.

The AAJA recognized various journalists in a national competition based on news-related works published or aired during 1988. The organization also presented a Special Recognition Award and its Lifetime Achievement Award (see related story this issue).

On Friday night, a silent auction featuring a variety of items was held

before and after the banquet. After the banquet's keynote speech by Ken Kashiwahara, an auction for the newsman's necktie was held. At a previous fundraiser held by the San Francisco AAJA Chapter a few years ago, ABC News anchorman Peter Jennings' tie was auctioned for \$125.

As bidding approached this figure, Kashiwahara said he hoped that his tie would sell for \$126 so that he could tell Jennings he topped him. Kashiwahara's wishes came true when bidding not only passed the \$126 mark but eventually sold for \$200. The buyers: Wendy Tokuda of San Francisco's WPIX-TV and Tritia Toyota of Los Angeles's KCBS-TV. The money went towards future AAJA scholarships.

Journalistic Jeopardy, fashioned after the popular quiz show, pitted different AAJA chapters against one another to win scholarship money. The host was Mario Machado, with pro-

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**WASHINGTON** — Japanese Americans hoping to receive redress checks in 1989 got a boost last week when a key House subcommittee recommended adding \$250 million to a supplemental 1989 spending bill in order to expedite payments to Nikkei affected by WWII-era evacuation and incarceration.

The March 6 action by the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State and Judiciary came after hearing testimony by a number of groups and individuals on the issue the day before. If eventually approved by the full Congress and the president, 12,500 eligible former internees out of the reported 52,000 names compiled by the Office of Redress Administration (ORA) would receive checks for \$20,000 in Fiscal Year 1989. The present budget proposal of the Bush administration provided no supplemental appropriations for FY 1989 and \$20 million for FY 1990, enough to pay 1,000 eligible Japanese Americans.

The subcommittee also approved recommending the addition of \$4.3 million in FY 1989 to the ORA to cover the costs of continuing the administration of identifying eligible redress recipients, bringing to \$6.4 million for the ORA budget for this year.

"The House subcommittee action reaffirms a commitment to provide a measure of justice to victims of the wartime internment," commented

JACL National Director Bill Yoshino.

"It is heartening to see that the results of the private meetings held by JACL with key members of Congress has developed support for early redress payments," added JACL National President Cressey Nakagawa.

### Testimony

Hearings on appropriations for Public Law 100-383 were held April 5 at the Rayburn House Office Building, with a number of groups and individuals taking pro- and anti-redress stances. U.S. Representatives testifying in favor of increasing appropriations were Don Edwards (D-Calif.), Hamilton Fish (R-N.Y.), Tom Foley (D-Wash.), Tony Coelho (D-Calif.), Barney Frank (D-Mass.), Daniel Akaka (D-Hawaii), Norman Mineta (D-Calif.) and Robert Matsui (D-Calif.).

Individuals and representatives of groups favoring increased appropriations Father Robert Drinan, Mike Masaoka, Rita Takahashi, William Hohri, Bert Nakano, Alan Nishio, Bill Kochiyama, Eugene Rostrow, Joseph Rauh, Ruth Lansner, Sue Tokushige, Chizu Iiyama, George Iwao and Angus Macbeth; the organization's some of these people represented included JACL, NCRP, NCJAR, the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League and the Leadership Council on Civil Rights (LCCR).

Speaking out against redress appropriations were Robert M. Garrick (who was not present for oral tes-

timony, but who had John P. Coale highlight his position), John Kirby, Bill Kubick, Lillian Baker, Howard Garber and Francis X. Keefe.

Rep. Jim Kolbe (R-Ariz.), who voted against H.R. 442 and the conference version of the bill, noted that he would fully support redress appropriations, something redress opponents did not want to hear.

Howard Garber, a vocal redress opponent, reportedly had to be called back into line after he protested a statement by Bill Kochiyama, that veterans supported the redress bill. Garber also went over the five minute time limit by over twice the allotted amount of time. Lillian Baker, who testified against redress appropriations, complained about having come 6,000 miles to speak for only five minutes.

### Mineta, Matsui Comment

"This action . . . should stand as an inspiration to all, for it speaks in a loud and clear voice that the Constitution is alive and well," said Rep. Norman Mineta, commenting on the appropriations recommendation.

Meanwhile, Rep. Robert Matsui said, "The subcommittee's actions make a quantum leap in efforts to place checks in the hands of camp survivors as quickly as possible . . . our attention will now focus on the full Appropriations Committee which could begin to consider the measure in as early as 10 days."



Pacific Citizen Photo By George Johnston

**LIBRARY GRANT**—The Henri and Tomoye Charitable Foundation recently presented the Japanese American Library in San Francisco with a grant of \$3,000, which will help defray costs of the library's bulletin. Pictured (l-r) are Henri and Tomoye Matsushita, library staff members Karen Seriguchi and Karl Matsushita, and library president Steven Doi.

## AAJA Presents James Omura with 'Lifetime Achievement Award'

By George Johnston

**SAN FRANCISCO** — The AAJA honored James Omura, former English editor of the Denver-based *Rocky Shimpō* during WWII, with a Lifetime Achievement Award April 6 at the National AAJA convention. Still considered a controversial figure by some, Omura wrote about draft resisters/Fair Play Committee at the Heart Mountain War Relocation Center in Wyoming.

Because his editorials asserted that Japanese Americans should not be drafted until their civil rights were returned, Omura was put on trial with seven actual resisters.

While Omura was acquitted, the others went to prison for unlawful conspiracy to counsel, aid and abet violation of the selective service act. They were later pardoned by President Harry Truman.

According to Frank Abe, a reporter of KIRO Radio in Seattle, the Japanese American Citizens League urged total cooperation with the federal government when Executive Order 9066 was issued during the early days of WWII. "There was only one Japanese American journalist who said that this was wrong, that we should stand on our constitutional principles, that if we went to camp, that that would be seen as proof of fears that we were disloyal," said Abe. "His name was James Omura."

Before introducing Omura, Abe said that in contrast to the JACL stance favoring the formation of a segregated combat unit to prove Japanese American loyalty, Omura believed "we should all do our duty, equally, but not before we were treated equally," and that young teenagers should not be drafted from behind barbed wire until their constitutional rights were first restored and their parents released from camp.

Abe added, "A year later, 63 young men were indicted in Heart Mountain concentration camp in Wyoming for resisting the draft. James Omura was the only reporter to fairly report why they were resisting and to editorialize

in support of their principle stand." Despite his acquittal, Abe stated that, "The Japanese American community, led by the JACL, made sure that the man that they regarded as a troublemaker never worked again."

"You are the first organization in the community to honor me in this fashion . . . I appreciate it very much," said Omura, after receiving his award. Afterwards, Omura said, "I do want to say that not in this lifetime did I ever expect an Asian American community organization to give me an honor or that, until last year, that the *Who's Who* directory would consider me qualified to be included."

When asked if he thought getting the award would change opinions of him, Omura said, "Everybody wants the public to think well of him regardless . . . I doubt very much that there will be any change, but I could be wrong because I was wrong that people would recognize me in this lifetime." Later that day, Omura, who still re-

sides in Denver, received a number of congratulatory telegrams from across the nation.

### Other Awards

Bill Sing, business writer for the *Los Angeles Times*, was given a Special Recognition Award by AAJA for his efforts to get AAJA started back in 1981. A former national president of AAJA, Sing is still actively involved in the organization and was pleased by the turnout at the convention.

While relating a story about the early days of the AAJA, Sing revealed that at one point, he was ready to call it quits and let AAJA die out. Fortunately for AAJA, Tritia Toyota, another early AAJA member, wasn't home when he called her to give him his decision. Because she was not home, he changed his mind and persisted.

In the journalistic awards competition, winners for the unlimited subject matter were:

*Continued on Page 5*

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### So. Calif. Hosts New Nikkei Veterans Formation

**BUENA PARK, Calif.**—The Go For Broke National Veterans Association (GFBNVA) has issued an open invitation to all Japanese American veterans of all branches of service, WACs, and nurses to its formative first annual general meeting at the Buena Park Hotel April 15-16. As a surprise addition, administrator Robert Bratt, Office of Redress Administrator, will be the Saturday luncheon speaker to enlighten veterans as well receive queries about redress eligibility. Mike Masaoka will also be available. George Nakano, Torrance mayor pro-tem, will be guest speaker at the Saturday banquet.

### Sansei May Seek Seattle School Board Seat

**SEATTLE**—The names of Alan Sugiyama, 39, executive director of the Center for Career Alternatives, and Amy Hagopian, a leader of Citizens for Quality Public Schools, are sounding like candidates for next fall's Seattle school board election, according to the *Seattle Times*. If Sugiyama wins, he would be the first Asian elected to the board. A resident of Beacon Hill, a graduate of Garfield High and the Univ. of Washington, he once worked in a drop-out counseling for the school district. He is married and has a daughter in kindergarten at Maple Elementary.

### UC Berkeley Apologizes for Anti-Asian Policy

**BERKELEY, Calif.** — A five-year dispute over Univ. of California admission policies on Asian enrollment came to end this past week (April 6) as chancellor Ira Michael Heyman apologized for the process that saw a decline of Asian undergraduates. He pledged to help change those entrance requirements. Asian community leaders participating at the press conference said they were now optimistic. San Francisco Municipal Court Judge Lillian Sing, who formed the Asian American task force to study the effects of admission policies on Asian enrollment, said, "We no longer need to be in an adversarial position because Heyman has accepted our findings and recommendations." Asians had comprised 26% of undergraduate enrollment, which in 1984 led to a cutback by raising test scores which tended to affect the Asians who have high grades but score lower on verbal tests than Whites.



Pacific Citizen Photo By George Johnston

**AAJA ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**—James Omura (center) is flanked by Frank Abe, KIRO Newsradio reporter (r) and Lloyd LaCuesta (l), National AAJA president, following presentation of the AAJA Lifetime Achievement Award April 6 at the AAJA convention in San Francisco.

## L.A. PANA Convention Planners Busy, 'Something to be Long Remembered'

LOS ANGELES—The fifth PANA Los Angeles Convention, which is being hosted by PANA-USA and supported by many Nikkei organizations including the Japanese Chamber of Commerce of Southern California and Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, is fast approaching—July 20-22.

Little Tokyo community leader Noritoshi Kanai, president of PANA-USA, convention chairman Henry Onodera, volunteer staff and committee are meeting twice a month to assure a memorable convention, "something to be remembered for a long time," Kanai added.

PANA—Pan American Nikkei Assn.—is an organization whose members are basically of Japanese ancestry throughout North and South America to promote friendship and well-being of all Nikkei. PANA was born in Mexico in 1981 with Carlos Kasuga, a prominent Mexico-born Nisei manufacturer of plastic products, as president and who is still president.

As conventions are held every other year, starting in Mexico City, then in Lima, São Paulo and Buenos Aires. Finally, for the first time, a PANA convention (the 5th) is being staged in the U.S. in the City of the Angels.

The convention begins Thursday (July 20) at the JACCC with registration and opening ceremonies in Japan America Theatre and buffet dinner at the plaza.

The second day's program consists of various seminars and a reception at the Japanese Consul General's residence, hosted by Consul General Hiromoto Seki. The finale will be the Saturday banquet-dance and closing ceremonies at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel.

In addition are PANA convention special events: photography contest, golf at the Los Verdes course on Palos Verdes peninsula and the international amateur *karaoke* contest Sunday, 1-4 p.m., at the Japan America Theatre.

For PANA information and registration: PANA-USA, 244 S. San Pedro, #504, Los Angeles, CA 90012-3888, (213) 626-3069, Fax: (213) 617-8576. Donations and volunteers are welcome, too.

## Hirabayashi Named JANM Curator

LOS ANGELES—Dr. James A. Hirabayashi, 62, former dean of undergraduate students at San Francisco State University, was selected the Japanese American National Museum curator this past week (April 5).

Hirabayashi will oversee the curatorial staff and coordinate the scholars, education specialists and designers as they work with collection and research data toward a grand opening in November, 1990, according to JANM director Irene Hirano.

A junior curator at Washington State Museum in the early '50s he taught sociology and anthropology in the U.S., Canada and Nigeria, earned his Ph.D. in anthropology at Harvard (1962), served as dean of ethnic studies at SFSU (1970-76) and chaired the anthropology department (1979-82), has written extensively on Japanese American history, and had plans to spend his retirement years on research of Japanese American life when, as Hirabayashi said, appeared "the opportunity to work with the Museum (which is) something that really coincides with my interests."

Active with the Asian American creative arts community, he serves on the boards of the Dance Collective and A.A. Theater Company and has acted in a number of their productions.

## Rep. Matsui to Lead 'Roast & Toast' Gala of Ron Wakabayashi

SAN FRANCISCO—Congressman Robert Matsui will lead the "Roast and Toast" dinner honoring former National JACL director Ron Wakabayashi on Friday, April 28, at Hyatt Hotel on Union Square. Joining him will be City Attorney Louise Renne, Dale Minami, Henry Der, Ernie Weiner (American Jewish Committee), Georgette Imura of State Senator Roberti's office and Frank Iwama. Don Tamaki will be master of ceremonies.

Wakabayashi served as national director for seven years, resigned on the eve of the 1988 national convention, helped with the Dukakis campaign in Southern California and is now with United Way of Los Angeles, as vice president for planning and solving problem. He is a member of the Calif. Student Aid Commission.

Tickets are \$35 per person; reception at 6, dinner at 7:30; reservations: call Neal Taniguchi or George Kondo, JACL Headquarters, (415) 921-5225.

## Nikkei Widowed Group to Celebrate 10th Year

LOS ANGELES—The Nikkei Widowed Group, an umbrella organization with Southland outreach clubs comprised of some 200 members, will celebrate its 10th anniversary on Sunday, May 7, 11:30 a.m. at the New Otani Hotel.

With Joanne Ishimine, KABC-TV news anchor, as mistress of ceremonies, the luncheon program features Nobuko Miyamoto, singer-dancer from *Great Leap* and Michael Uno, director of *The Wash* and his cast as guests.

Tickets are \$25 donation via Tak Shibuya, 12432 Allin St., Los Angeles, CA 90066.

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**Pan American Nikkei Association**  
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**JULY 20 - 22, 1989**  
**LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

**PROGRAM** Thursday: July 20 Registration, Opening Ceremonies, Buffet Dinner (JACCC)  
Friday: July 21 Seminars, Reception (Japanese Consul General's Residence)  
Saturday: July 22 Leisure Time; Sayonara Banquet & Dance (Westin Bonaventure)

### SPECIAL EVENTS

**PHOTO CONTEST:** "Today's Nikkei Community As I See"

8"x10" color or b&w. Many prizes! Amateurs only! Photos will be displayed in North Gallery, JACCC, July 21-23  
Entry Deadline: June 15, 1989, to be received by PANA-USA. No Photos will be returned.  
Co-Sponsor—Fuji Anaheim Color Lab, Inc. ■ Supported by—Kimura Photo Mart, L.A. Japanese American Photographic Federation

**GOLF TOURNAMENT:** Sunday, July 23—Los Verdes Golf Course, 7000 W. Los Verdes Dr., Rancho Palos Verdes, Calif.  
Only 60 players; first-come, first-served basis. Sunday, July 23, check-in time 10 a.m., tee-off 11 a.m.  
Many prizes! Modified Peoria Handicap System (9 blind holes).

**KARAOKE TAIKAI:** Sunday, July 23, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.—Japan America Theatre  
Amateurs only! All songs must be sung in Japanese! Each song must be 2 verses or within 3 minutes! No champion from previous PANA contest. Deadline to apply for singing: May 31, 1989 (to be received by PANA-USA).  
For more information on singing contest rules and procedures, call Sam Fujii, (213) 770-2800.

**PANA Information Center:** PANA-USA, c/o Japanese Chamber of Commerce of Southern California,  
244 S. San Pedro St., Room 504, Los Angeles, CA 90012-3888. Phone: (213) 626-3069, Fax: (213) 617-8576

To participate in any of the events, call PANA Information Center  
or send the application form below with a check payable to "PANA-USA"

I would like to apply for or participate in the ones checked below:

- 1. Opening & Closing, including dinners, dance (\$150\*)
- 2. Opening Ceremony, Buffet Only (\$75\*)
- 3. Sayonara Banquet, Dance Only (\$100\*)
- 4. Dance Only (\$15\*)
- 5. Photo Contest (\$5\*/Photo; Max. 2 photos)
- 6. Karaoke Taikai (\$15\*) (No charge for contestants)
- 7. Golf (\$100\*)
- 8. Annual Membership (\$20 Individual, \$50 Corporate)
- 9. Donation: \$\_\_\_\_\_

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## Mombushō Scholarships for Students, In-Service Teacher Training Now Available

LOS ANGELES — Applications for the 1989 Japanese government (Mombushō) scholarships for American teachers for in-service training and American students specializing in Japanese studies are being accepted by the Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles. Deadline is May 5.

In-service scholarship applicants must be U.S. citizens, under 35 years of age as of Oct. 1, 1989, in good health, and be willing to study the Japanese language. Teachers must be university or college graduates, be actively teaching at present, and have at least five years of experience in teacher training service, primary or secondary schools, or educational administration.

Japan studies *Mombushō* scholarship applicants must be U.S. citizens, of more than 18 or less than 30 years of age as of Oct. 1, 1989, third year students at a university or college, and specializing in a field concerning Japanese language or culture.

The local Consulate of Japan will

accept applications from residents in: Arizona, New Mexico, and the following counties in California: Imperial, Orange, Los Angeles, Riverside, Santa Barbara, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, and Ventura.

Applicants will undergo a preliminary screening, language examination, and oral interview conducted by a selection committee in late May.

For in-service training applicants, Japanese language is not a requirement, but as all lectures will be conducted in Japanese, a language training course is offered. Grantees will be non-degree students, but will receive a certificate of completion.

Student applicants will also have a preliminary screening, language examination, and oral interview conducted by a selection committee in late May.

For application forms and further details, call or write:

Consulate General of Japan, 250 E. 1st St., 12th Fl., Los Angeles, CA 90012, (213) 624-8305, Attn: Ms. Ildiko Gedeon.

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JACL-Blue Shield of California Group Health Trust  
1765 Sutter Street, San Francisco, California 94115

**OMURA**

Continued from Page 1

Photography, black and white—Mary Lee (1st) and Marilyn K. Yee (2nd). Photography, color—Akira Suwa (1st) and Michael Yamashita (2nd). Print—Evelyn Keiko Iritani (1st) and John E. Yang (2nd). Radio—Frank Abe (1st) and Holly C. Quan (2nd). Television—Betty Ann Bruno (1st) and Ti-Hua Chang (2nd).

Under the Asian American issues category, the winners were:

Print—Nancy Cleeland (1st) and Shawn Hubler and Lennie Laguire (2nd). Radio—Jenny Linda Attiyeh. Television—Kay Kusuda.

**1000 Club Roll**

(Year of Membership Shown)

\* Century; \*\* Corp/Silver; \*\*\* Corp/Gold; \*\*\*\* Corp/Diamond; L Life; M Memorial

The 1988 Totals ..... 1,931 (842)  
 1989 Summary (Since Nov. 30, 1988)  
 Active (previous total) ..... 730 (34)  
 Total this report: #16 ..... 38 ( 0)  
 Current total ..... 768  
 Life, C/Life, Memorial total ..... (34)  
**March 27-31, 1989 (38)**  
 Berkeley: 19-Dr Frank T Kami.  
 Chicago: 20-James C Henneberg, 11-Chieko Onoda, 17-Minoru Saito.  
 Cleveland: 1-Harry Murakami, 9-Mary Sadataki, 6-Dr Craig Shimizu, 1-Harry Taketa.  
 Dayton: 13-Dr Kazuo K Kimura.  
 Downtown Los Angeles: 1-Angel K Nishinaka.  
 Eden Township: 19-Art Y Mitsutome, 31-James Tsurumoto.  
 Fort Lupton: 34-Dr George H Uyemura, 34-Marjorie Uyemura.  
 French Camp: 14-Hito Murata.  
 Gardena Valley: 7-Teruko Yoshiki.  
 Marin County: 3-David Nakagawa.  
 Marina: 8-Grace S Akiyama, 7-Tsutako Curo, 1-Fred M Ige, 2-Rei Miyuchi.  
 Milwaukee: 8-Ronald Kiefler.  
 Mount Olympus: 20-Charles S Kawakami.  
 Oakland: 25-Tony Motomi Yokomizo.  
 Philadelphia: 17-George K Higuchi.  
 Reedley: 15-Ken Sunamoto.  
 San Fernando Valley: 33-Michi Imai, 33-Tamotsu Tom Imai.  
 San Francisco: 28-Katsumori Handa, 39-Dr Tokuji Hedani.  
 San Mateo: 21-Shizu Kariya.  
 Santa Barbara: 6-Emily K Mori, 8-Joe Mori.  
 Spokane: 36-Dr Mark M Kondo, 10-Raymond Jiro Takisaki.  
 Venice Culver: 22-Tom Nakamura.  
 Washington, DC: 8-Key K Kobayashi, 3-Wendy Morihisa McColough.

**Asian Foundation Names New Director**

OAKLAND, Calif. — The Asian Foundation for Community Development, which has provided over \$200,000 in grants and loans to Bay Area community and small business groups the past four years, announced on March 3 the appointment of Esme Marconi as its new executive director. Previously with Easter Seal Society state headquarters at San Francisco where she was director of development, and member of the National Society of Fund Raising Executives, Marconi is a native of Waipahu, Hawaii, of Japanese, Chinese, Hawaiian, Filipino and Portuguese descent.

**Asian Small Business Success in Calif. Tallied**

LOS ANGELES—Asian businesses in Southern California are successes, "not because they are Asian (but) they understand the key ingredients of running a successful small business," according to Michael McGreevy of Pacific Bell directory. According to their survey, 300 Asian businesses were more likely (84%) to have a plan when they started business (64% non-Asian), more likely to own a personal computer, to use outside attorneys and to use accountants than non-Asian entrepreneurs.

**Hawaiians to Host Jerome Camp Reunion**

HONOLULU—The Hawaii Jerome Camp reunion over the Aug. 12-13 weekend starts with a Saturday picnic at the Ala Moana Park and ends at the aloha banquet Sunday at Kanroku Tea House.

A special invitation to Mainland internees, especially, the Issei, is being extended, according to Sally Tsuneishi (Los Angeles: 213/283-5642.)

For registration, write to Mrs. Marian Takagi, 1212 Punahou St. #1406, Honolulu, HI 96826. Tickets are \$5 picnic bento, \$25 banquet. Golf and tours optional. The L.A.-Hawaii travel package covering 7 nites, hotel and air is available through Bert Nakano (213/719-3345).

Some 1,500 men, women and children from Hawaii were interned at Jerome, Ark., during World War II.

**Inouye, Dymally Seek Naturalization of WWII Filipino Veterans**

WASHINGTON — Sen. Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii) and Rep. Mervyn Dymally (D-Calif.) have reintroduced legislation permitting the naturalization of Filipinos who fought in World War II along American troops. The bill numbers are S.60 and HR 525, respectively.

Approximately 60,000 Filipino veterans are reported to be eligible under this legislation, and Illinois Attorney General Neil Hartigan, who is urging passage by the Illinois delegation, estimated as many as 6,000 reside in Illinois.

**P.C. Note**—A 1940 law letting foreign nationals who had served honorably with the U.S. armed forces to petition for U.S. citizenship expired on Dec. 31, 1946. And the second War Powers Act of 1942, which also expired when the war was over (Dec. 31, 1946), waived some of the normal naturalization requirements for aliens who fought with U.S. forces overseas.

According to Sen. Inouye on his 1977 bill for restoring Filipino veteran rights, thousands of Filipinos, whose names "should not have been struck" from the Army records in 1948, had served with the U.S.-sponsored "Commonwealth Army" or the USAFFE (U.S. Armed Forces in the Far East) unit.

Most of the estimated 175,000 Filipinos, in their mid-60s and 70s today, who joined the U.S. military during World War II have been

**Gardena Valley JACler's Novel 'Seki-nin' Published**

FULLERTON, Calif. — Calif. State Univ.-Fullerton has published a novel written by George Nakagawa, longtime Seattle JACL member (recently transferred to Gardena Valley JACL) and brother of Ben Nakagawa, a past president, titled "Seki-nin (Duty Bound)", based on the experiences of a Seattle family which returned to Japan prior to World War II. During the war, their only child who had reluctantly accompanied his parents, is drafted and tragedy follows. An interview with the author is appended, providing insight into the significance of the novel.

For a postpaid copy, send \$22.75 payable to CSUF Foundation, Oral History Program L-431, CSUF, Fullerton, CA 92634.



**BANNER RUN**—Banner Run IV will begin in San Jose's Japantown on Sunday, May 7 at 7:45 a.m. with a one-mile fun walk/run, with the 10k TAC certified and sanctioned run beginning at 8:30 a.m. Advance registration fee is \$12, due April 24, with race day registration \$15. The first place man and woman will each receive a trip to Hawaii. Registration checks can be sent to: The Banner Run, c/o Ken Morishita, 821 Virginia Ct., Campbell, CA 95008. Info: Greg Yee, 408 245-4218.

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naturalized, but those who could not prove in a timely fashion they served during the war had their petitions stopped or challenged by the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

**Chicago All-Clubs Gang Set for Reno Reunion**

BROOMFIELD, Colo.—The Bally's Reno was selected for the Chicago All-Clubs reunion over the July 14-15 weekend. The fun-filled program, social events, tennis, golf and banquet have been planned for those who lived in the Chicago area after internment camp through 1960. Club affiliation is not necessary. For details, write to Eddie Nozawa, 10283 Moore Court, Broomfield, CO 80020. Reservation deadline is May 15.

**Honolulu Buddhists Observe Centennial Year**

HONOLULU—The 100th birthday of the Honolulu Honpa Hongwanji Temple was observed March 10 with Monshu Koshin Ohtani of Japan, head of the Jodo Shinshu Sect, presiding at the ceremonies.

A direct descendant of the founder of the largest Buddhist sect in Hawaii, he planted a princess palm at the temple-sponsored English elementary school.



**JACL-LEC RECOGNITION**—In appreciation of their heroic contributions, both today and during WWII, plaques were presented from the JACL-LEC to outgoing Seattle Nisei Veterans Committee Commander Mas Fukuhara (l) and to Dr. John Ishii, president of the Northwest Chapter of the MIS. Cherry Kinoshita, JACL v.p. of Public Affairs and JACL-LEC vice chair, made the presentation. An honorary life membership was awarded posthumously to "Cal" Butterworth of Butterworth Funeral Directors for donating burial services to Nikkei war dead who were returned to Seattle after WWII. Art Susumu is commander for '89.

**AAJA**

Continued from Page 1

duction handled by the Los Angeles AAJA Chapter. Portland eventually won the competition.

In AAJA business, Mei-Mei Chan of *USA Today* and Alan Llavore of *The Times Union* of Albany, N.Y. ran unopposed for and respectively won second vice president and secretary at the national AAJA level. The convention also marked the debut of a media guide for both print and electronic news outlets.

The publication, *Asian Pacific Americans: A Handbook on How to Cover and Portray Our Nation's Fastest Growing Minority Group*, had been over two years in production. It was produced by AAJA, the National Conference of Christians and Jews and the Association of Asian Pacific American Artists (AAPAA). JACL was one

of the many co-sponsors of the guide.

According to Bill Sing, a founding member of the AAJA, the convention was a success all around. "It was better than the 1987 convention. There were a lot of good programs, a lot of excitement and it was well organized," said the *Los Angeles Times* business writer.

**Canadian Japanese Gets \$21,000 Redress Check**

VANCOUVER, B.C.— Steve Enomoto, 80, found it hard to believe and heaved a sigh of relief the first week of March upon showing his \$21,000 check from Ottawa as redress for internment during the Second World War.

"Now I have peace of mind," said the one-time mechanic running Safety Garage on Powell Street, the prewar Japanese town here.

He and his wife Ellen were relocated to Brexton, an abandoned mining town in the Bridge River Valley, in 1942. After the war, they moved north to Lac La Hache and returned to Vancouver in 1960.

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ISSN: 0030-8579

Published at Los Angeles, Calif. by the Japanese American Citizens League, National Headquarters, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115, (415) 921-5225, every Friday except the first of the year, biweekly during July and August, and the last two alternating weeks in December.

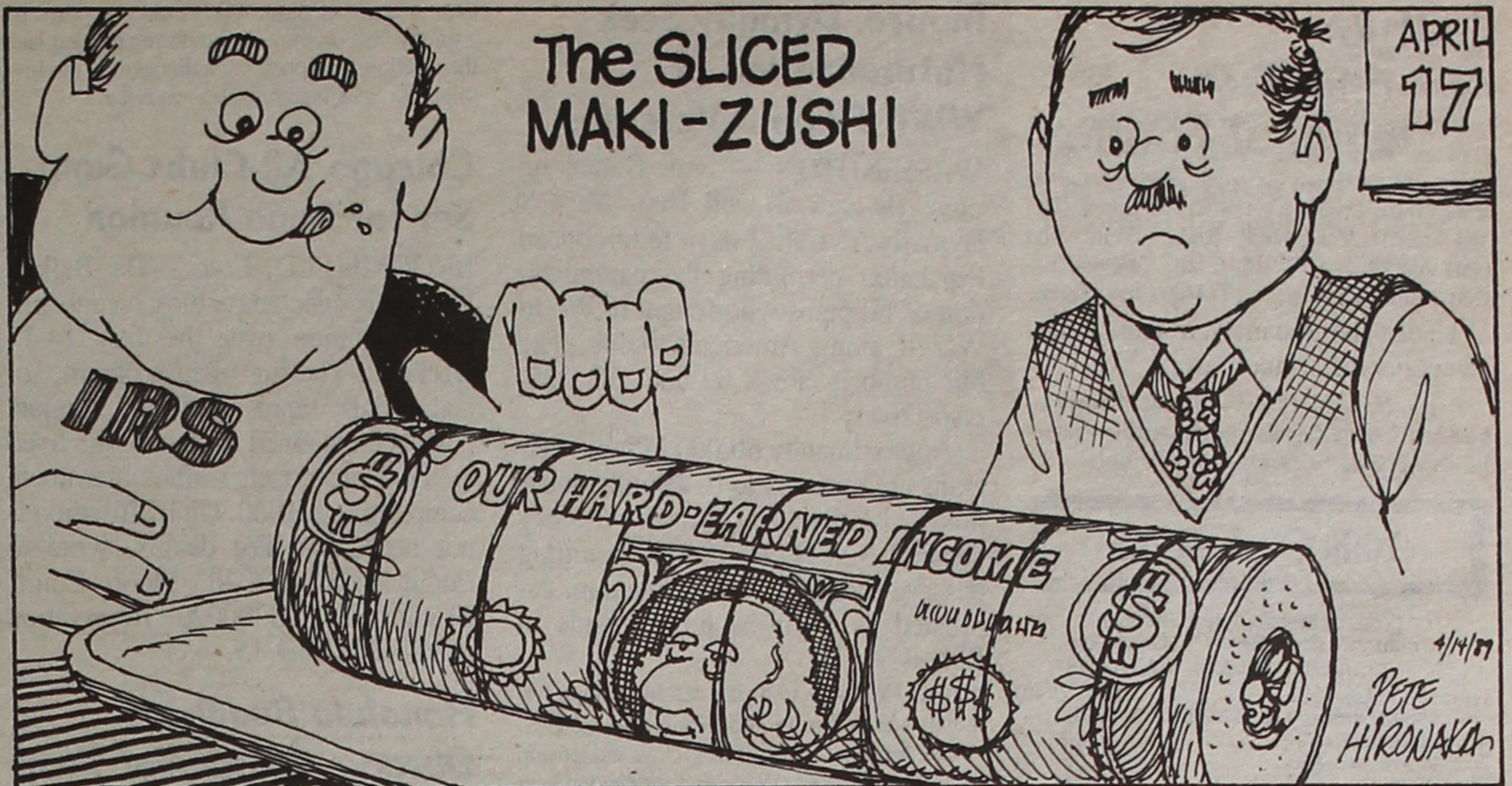
Second Class Postage Paid at Los Angeles, Calif. • Annual Subscription Rates — JACL Members: \$12.00 of the national dues provide one year on a one-per-household basis. Non-Members: 1 year — \$25, 2 years — \$48, payable in advance. • Foreign: add US\$13.00 per year. • Air mail — U.S., Canada, Mexico: add \$30 US per year; Japan / Europe: add US\$60 per year.

The news and opinions expressed by columnists other than the National President or National Director do not necessarily reflect JACL policy.

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POSTMASTER: Send Address Change to: Pacific Citizen, 941 E. 3rd St., Los Angeles, CA 90013-1703



## EDITORIAL OF THE PACIFIC CITIZEN:

### America's Resurgence

JOEL KOTKIN, co-author with Yoriko Kishimoto of the book *The Third Century: America's Resurgence in the Asian Era*, has been telling audiences around the country that the West Coast must make the nation aware of the challenges and opportunities on the Pacific Rim.

Kotkin warns that the European-orientation of East Coast power brokers is outdated. He argues that the nation needs a new mindset which recognizes the growing vitality of Pacific Rim countries, and the importance of Japan to the future of America.

This is what some Japanese Americans have been saying for some time. But their voices lacked credibility because they were largely unknown. Now, at long last, others are picking up the message.

Interestingly enough, Kotkin blames Easterners for much of the Japan-bashing which, he says, is based on fear of an America declining in the face of Asian aggressiveness. "Power, money, and technology are flowing from the East Coast to the West Coast, from the Atlantic, with its European orientation, to the Asian Pacific Rim," he said recently. "That's why the East Coast elite has lost confidence in the future of America."

Rather than seeing an American decline, he predicts American resurgence linked to Asian vitality. This is a heartening point of view for Americans with Asian roots, many of whom live on the West Coast and who have the interest and skills to contribute to and participate in that resurgence.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Ni-soku San-mon

Although I do not claim to be a scholar of the Japanese language, being a post WWII immigrant, I would like to comment on Bill Marutani's "Ni-soku san-mon" (P.C. March 3, 1989).

His interpretation of *ni-soku* (two bundles) is correct. However, *san-mon* is not three mommes (measure of weight). *Mon* is a unit of old Japanese money, which was used until the early Meiji-era, when it was replaced by *rin*. (Perhaps, not exactly equivalent.)

One *mon* is one-tenth of one *sen* which is one-hundredth of one *yen*. *Yen* replaced the old *ryo* as the cardinal unit of Japanese currency and, in those days, I am told one *yen* was about equal to one-half dollar. Therefore, *san-mon* were about 3x50 cents x 0.001 or 15 cents. Two bundles of whatever it might be costing 15 cents sound very cheap indeed. A literal translation of *ni-soku san-mon* would be "dime a dozen."

Incidentally, up until quite recently, *mon* was used as a measure of the size of a shoe or *tabi* in Japan. One *mon* is the length of a diameter of a one *mon* coin (made of copper alloy with a square hole) which is about the size of a quarter. So, if you can place ten quarters end to end from the tip of your big toe to the end of your heel, your shoe size would be *ju-mon* or ten "mons".

Now, with regard to Judge Marutani's question about why he could not find the words *eta* and *buraku-min* in those popular Japanese dictionaries (Japanese-Japanese or Japanese-English?), I can not offer satisfactory answers. It may be that they are unlisted since those words are derogatory or discriminatory. However, this subtle and serious caste system do exist within the Japanese society, which the majority tend to forget or ignore. I am sure that those words are listed in sociological dictionaries or encyclopedia.

SHIRO TANAKA  
Cincinnati, Ohio

### Time to Repent

I have long been troubled, as I am sure many others have been, by the adversarial position taken by JACL towards the draft resisters in WWII, the so-called No-No Boys and the Heart Mountain Fair Play

Committee members. Most of us older Nisei clearly understood the racist climate of the times and understood that most of us had no job opportunities beyond the produce stands for Nisei men and minor clerical jobs for Nisei women, if they could get them. Given that environment, it is small wonder that many Nisei became super patriots and of a white mentality, while others turned their allegiance to Japan. My father, in his written testimony for the 1981 hearings of the Commission on the Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, testified as follows:

"In 1943, there was the so-called Loyalty Registration. All of us, aliens denied citizenship under your laws, and American citizens of Japanese ancestry, were subjected to answering many questions. It aroused a great dispute, particularly among Nisei. For me, as an alien, there was no choice but to submit to the war policy of the United States. But to Nisei, it was different, because they were American citizens. There were many super patriots who volunteered to serve the army, in spite of the fact that their rights of citizenship had been ignored and they were confined behind barbed wire fences.

"There were some Nisei, however, who argued that they could not be loyal to the United States and serve in the army, since the rights of citizenship had been taken away from them. They formed a group called 'Fair Play Committee,' and started to have meetings at the various mess halls to explain their point of view.

"One day some of their leaders came to our block and asked me to serve as the emcee at the meeting they planned to have in our block (my father was former block head of block two in Heart Mountain, having retired after one year to take care of the Japanese Language Library). I told them, 'Why don't you go to the present block head?' The leader answered, 'We did, but he refused to be the emcee. There is no one to ask about it, so we came to you.' I hesitated a little, but finally I accepted it, for I had been sympathetic towards them.

"The gist of my talk at that Fair Play Committee meeting was as follows: 'Since I am legally an enemy alien, I am not in a position to express my opinions on the policy of the war of the United States, but when I was younger I went to the American schools for several years and learned about American history, as well as the Constitution of the United States. I know why the colonists rebelled against England. The Nisei also know about them. I can understand why some of them refuse to be loyal to the United States, and refuse to serve in the American army, since the rights of citizenship have been denied to them, and they have been put into the concentration camps without doing anything wrong. Tonight, young people are going to speak about what they have in their minds. I wish all of you... please listen to what they have to say.'

"At the time I spoke at the meeting, three of my sons were already serving in the American army. I was proud of this. At the same time, I justified some of the Nisei

Continued on Page 5



## FROM THE FRYING PAN

BILL HOSOKAWA

### Old, New Ways as Survival Skills

When you don't understand the national language, and you have few skills to sell, how do you make a living? You find work in which the chief requisites are a strong back and willingness to dirty your hands and put in long hours. In other words, work that few other people want.

Early Chinese immigrants to the United States labored on the railroads, mines and farms. When they were ready to go into business for themselves, many opened laundries or restaurants. Those occupations demanded long hours but not much in the way of capital investment.

Japanese immigrants also started as laborers, then moved into endeavors that provided services—restaurants, dry cleaning shops, laundries, barber shops, small retail stores, hotels which could be leased cheaply.

Now we are seeing the pattern repeated by later waves of Asian immigrants in the Little Koreas and Little Saigons that have been created in many parts of the country.

Meanwhile, ambition and education have enabled the American-born generations of Chinese and Japanese to move up the economic and social ladder into white-collar professions. At the same time we are seeing an astonishing increase in the number of Chinese, Vietnamese, Thai and Japanese restaurants operated by recent arrivals from these countries.

Recently JETRO, the Japanese External Trade Organization, conducted a survey which revealed 6,447 Japanese companies with offices in the United States: 830 manufacturing plants, and 1,249 restaurants. While no details were provided, it seems to be a good bet that most of these restaurants are owned and operated by Japanese nationals and that they feature *sushi*.

(If anyone had suggested 25 years ago that red-blooded Americans would be going ga-ga over slices of raw fish and octopus and sea urchin eggs and salmon eggs on cold rice shaped by

hand into lumps by a guy in a T-shirt, he would have been considered hopelessly nuts.)

The JETRO survey does not pretend to be anything more than an approximation. For example, California is said to have 658 Japanese restaurants. I would guess there must be that many in Southern California alone. Second in number is New York with 234, and that also would seem to be underestimated. But in Alaska there are said to be five Japanese restaurants.

On the other hand, states like Arizona, Idaho, Minnesota, Missouri, the two Carolinas, New Mexico and Virginia, among others, are reported to have no Japanese restaurants. Washington, D.C. is said to have only three. It would seem someone wasn't looking very diligently.

As we started to say, succeeding generations of Asian immigrants tend to move away from restaurant work. But it's a good thing that the newcomers have brought their *sushi*-making skills with them.

## BY THE BOARD

CHERRY KINOSHITA

### Keeping JACL Alive



SEATTLE—The National Association of Japanese Canadians, I reported, has begun discussions to explore "the future direction and leadership of NAJC." JACL is also at the juncture now with redress reaching its concluding stages, when similar questions come to the fore—as they have time and again in the past.

Those of us who have remained steadfast JACL members for over two or three decades usually agree, albeit grudgingly at times—that yes, we believe in JACL. We believe in supporting and preserving our organization as the only national civil rights organization which looks out for the welfare of Japanese Americans, and addresses the concerns of all Asian Americans.

Despite the criticism that falls on JACL, we must be doing something right. In our local area, for example, a Filipino group has emerged as a human rights organization which calls itself the "FACL," the Filipino American Citizens League. This speaks for itself.

Given that there exists a commitment to the survival of JACL, the next question becomes, "How can we be assured that JACL can operate without a continual budget crunch?" Faced each biennium with sole reliance on membership dues to fund its operations, JACL has struggled with the constant frustration of never having enough on a consistent basis to develop the programs under its plans for action.

The Japanese Canadians are putting out the call, "Let's not miss this opportunity (for fund raising) for we will never have it again..." It is generally known that many Nikkei organizations across our nation ranging from various churches, cultural centers, historical museums, retirement homes, "grass roots" organizations, etc. are well underway in plans to be ready to "reach out and touch" potential donors who will be beneficiaries of the redress compensation.

Because JACL's energies have been focused on its first priority of achieving passage of redress (I speak of JACL and JACL-LEC as a unity), and its fundraising capabilities have been concentrated on the raising of well over a million dollars to carry out its redress educational and lobbying programs, the National JACL and its network of chapters have fallen far behind in this type of readiness. So now belatedly, we ask—what about when redress arrives?

Due to the urgency to move ahead with a JACL program that will offer more choice than the potential of just increasing membership or adding to its scholarship funds, a special meeting was held in January by a dozen JACLers to brainstorm some ideas.

Without much debate there was agreement at this meeting that JACL is needed, and that its strength lies in its clout as a national organization. Would

national legislation such as naturalization for the Issei, repeal of Title II of the Internal Security Act, and the passage of H.R. 442 have been possible without a national identification? Individual chapters can be potent forces within their communities, but an essential factor in their influence to make changes is that the chapter is a link in a national organization of over 100 chapters with a 60-year history. Indeed, there was no problem in reaching a consensus that JACL is needed, and needed as a national organization.

Various ideas were tossed out as to the means for establishing a solid financial base for the national organization's survival, but the recurring answer seemed to filter down to an endowment type of fund, the proceeds from which could be utilized to fund programs to fulfill JACL's goals.

We already have an Endowment Fund, many members would say. Those familiar with the existing Endowment Fund are aware that it was established with a special purpose—to be ready to meet any future emergency similar to the Evacuation episode. There was a consensus that we should respect the wishes to those who founded that Endowment Fund and worked hard to raise its monies, and that we should continue to entrust into the Endowment Fund Committee's hands any plans for its appropriate use.

Next week: The establishment of a new National JACL Fund.

## Asian American Civil Rights on Tap for Regional Forum

SAN FRANCISCO—The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights will hold three round table conferences this year on "Asian Civil Rights Issues in the 1990s," it was announced by the commission Feb. 28.

Tentative sites and dates are Houston, May 26; New York, June 23; and San Francisco, July 21. The conferences will be convened by a subcommittee consisting of Sherwin Chan, newest member of the commission and the first Asian American on the body, and Blandina Cardenas Ramirez.

The conferences are expected to serve as a forum where civil rights of Asian Americans can be discussed and also serve as follow-up to specific problems identified in the commission's report. The topics raised at these regional meetings will then be presented to the full commission some in late October. Tentative date is Oct. 26-27.

## Sansei Paraplegic Climbs 50-Story IBM Tower

ATLANTA — A Seattle paraplegic, Eric Kondo, 23, has climbed the steps of the 50-story IBM Tower here in a wheelchair. He grasped the railing with one hand and turned the rear wheel of his chair with the other, a trek which took 3½-hours.

"I want to be an inspiration to other disabled people," Kondo recently declared. "A lot of people in wheelchairs can climb stairs — they just don't know how. For a long time, it didn't occur to me that you can climb stairs."

P.C. Note: Our building has no elevator. Our office is on the mezzanine, four flights up.

## Hawaii Club Raises Funds on Fuzzy Fancies

HONOLULU — How to raise the final million for the \$4.5 million Hawaii Okinawan Center was the mission of a secret Okinawan club on Oahu: the Million Dollar Mustache Club.

Its members, including some of the leading business and professional men of Okinawan ancestry, decided to grow mustaches, contribute and collect money. By their fuzzy growth, ye shall recognize them—the club having been born on Jan. 1, 1989. How many the 400 club members have mustaches is unknown, but a Shaving Off Party is set for April 21.

## LETTERS

Continued from Page 4

who refused to serve in the army under such circumstances. Later, some were charged with violating the law, and I offered to be a defense witness in their behalf. From Heart Mountain, 70 of these Nisei finally were sentenced and served time in jail.

"After almost 40 years, I firmly believe that the total evacuation of Japanese during World War II was wrong, and the United States government made a great mistake. It is proper for the United States to recognize this, and to do something to compensate the victims to show her sincerity. By so doing, I believe, the United States will not lose anything, on the contrary, her reputation as a true democratic country will be greatly enhanced. Signed, Satoru Tsuneishi."

In retrospect, it is unfortunate that some JACLers still criticize the No-No Boys, refusing to understand that racism enforced by our government created the climate within which they made their decisions.

The Fair Play Committee members were basically another group who either answered "yes-yes" to questions 27 and 28 of the loyalty oath (serving in the armed forces in combat duty, and giving unqualified allegiance to our country) or abstained from answering both questions and gave reasons for such abstention. Their open, declared loyalty was to the United States, but the basic position of the Fair Play Committee members was that they would serve when their basic civil rights were returned. They were pronounced guilty in federal court in Cheyenne, Wyo., and served prison terms.

JACL needs to repent, if I may use the word, and furthermore, needs to openly acknowledge that the Fair Play Committee members took the higher moral ground in their devotion to our country.

PAUL TSUNEISHI  
Los Angeles, Calif.



**ON THE GOOD FOOT**—Getting ready for Health Fair Expo '89, a series of free health screenings offered to the public on Sunday, April 30 from noon to 4 p.m. at the Japanese Institute of Sawtelle, 2110 Corinth Ave., Los Angeles, are: (l-r) Dr. Johnny Gushiken, M.D., medical director; Sid Yamazaki, site director; and Toy Kanegai, co-chairperson, all representing the West Los Angeles JACL. In addition to medical screenings, Health Fair Expo will offer educational information on health care and, for a \$15 fee, blood tests will be available.

## 'My Life a Loaded Gun'

SAN DIEGO—Velina Hasu Houston's new play, *My Life A Loaded Gun*, has its first reading at the prestigious Old Globe Theatre on Monday, May 1, 7:30 p.m. For reservations: (619) 239-2255.

Serio-comic play is about Anne Sexton and Sylvia Plath, a pair of charismatic Pulitzer Prize-winning poets whose lives ended in tragic suicide, is being directed by Julianne Boyd, director of the Old Globe Theater production of *Tea* last year.

## Japanese Investments in Hawaii Falling

HONOLULU—Japanese real estate involvement in Hawaii continued at a good pace in 1988 with \$1.83 billion but it was down from the 1987 mark of \$3.3 billion, according to a recent Leventhal & Co. report (March 8).

The report noted Japan is now leap-frogging Hawaii to other markets, having previously purchased so much premier Hawaiian property and community sensitivity about the flood of investment.

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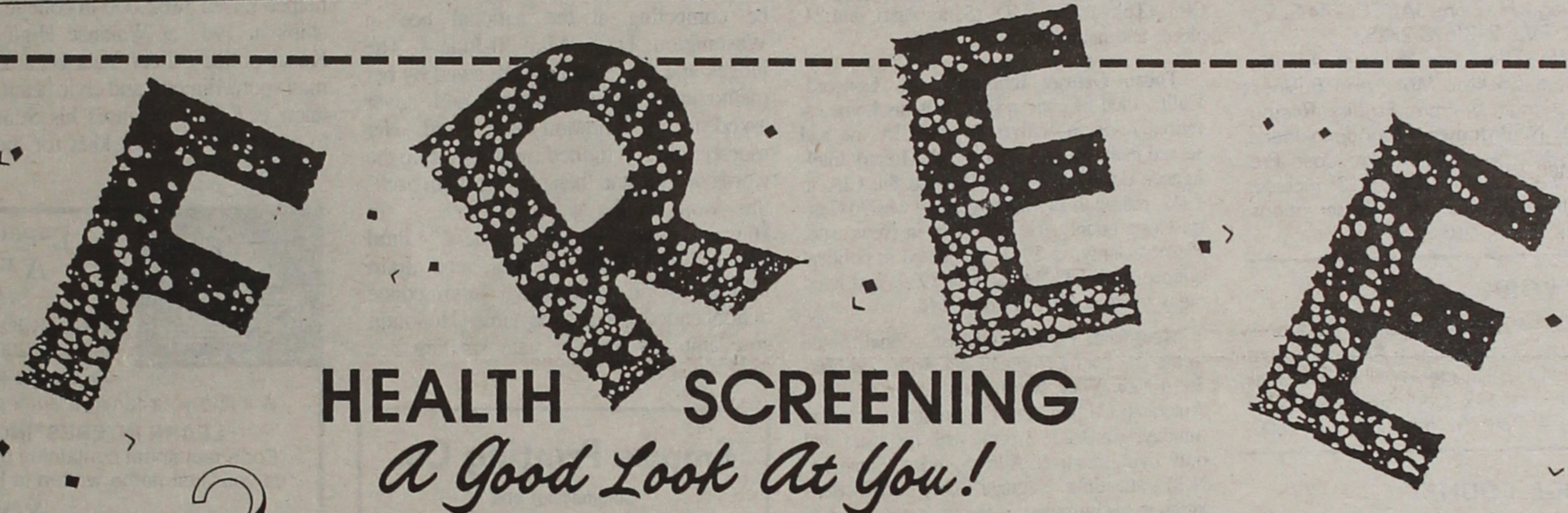
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Baldwin Hills-Crenshaw Plaza  
Sunday, April 30 11am-4pm  
3650 Martin Luther King Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90008

Memorial Hospital of Gardena  
Saturday, April 22 9am-1pm  
1145 West Redondo Beach Bl.  
Gardena, CA 90247

Harbor UCLA Medical Center  
Saturday, April 22 10am-3pm  
1000 W. Carson Street  
1st & 2nd Floor Clinics  
Torrance, CA 90509

Lakewood Center Mall  
Saturday, April 22 10am-5pm  
Sunday, April 23 10am-5pm  
200 Lakewood Blvd.  
(at Del Amo)  
Lakewood, CA 90712

Norwalk City Hall  
Saturday, April 29 10am-3pm  
Sunday, April 30 10am-3pm  
12700 Norwalk Blvd.  
(at Imperial Hwy)  
Norwalk, CA 90650

Whittwood Mall  
Friday, April 21 10am-7pm  
15601 E. Whittwood Lane  
Whittier, CA 90603

Veterans Memorial Bldg. Aud.  
Friday, April 21 10am-4pm  
4117 Overland Ave.  
Culver City, CA 90230

Cedars-Sinai Medical Center  
Sunday, April 23 10am-3pm  
8700 Beverly Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90048

Japanese Institute of Sawtelle  
Sunday, April 30 12N-4pm  
2110 Corinth Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90025

Northridge Fashion Center  
Saturday, April 22 10am-4pm  
9301 Tampa Ave., Lower Level  
Northridge, CA 91326

Glendale Galleria  
Saturday, April 29 10am-4pm  
Sunday, April 30 11am-3pm  
Brand/Central/Broadway/Colo.  
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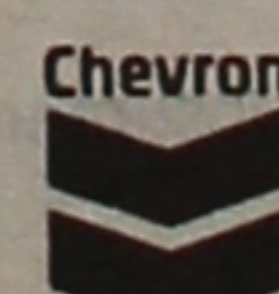
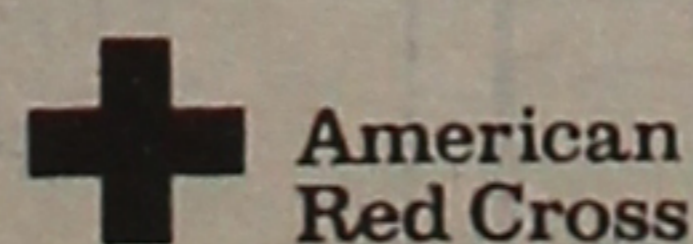
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Education Center  
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Anaheim Plaza  
Wed., April 26 9am-4:30pm  
500 N. Euclid Avenue  
Anaheim, CA 92801

Main Place Santa Ana  
Saturday, April 29 10am-7pm  
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Santa Ana, CA 92701

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