



the

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Friday, March 15, 1991

## News

## California bill would protect redress money

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—A bill was recently introduced in the California State Legislature to ensure that the state won't be able to claim any portion of Japanese American redress payments by restricting public assistance benefits.

Senate Bill 353 was authored by Sen. Patrick Johnston (D-Stockton), who had authored legislation in 1988 that exempted federal redress payments from state income tax, and declared that such payments would not affect a person's eligibility for Medi-Cal or public assistance.

The recent bill, however, responds to some reported inconsistencies in the implementation of the law. It appears that the state can still claim all or a portion of the federal redress payments in certain circumstances.

"I am extremely disappointed that the intent of the legislature has not been carried out," said Sen.

Johnston. "I still do not believe that the government should compensate an individual for a past injustice with one hand, and with the other hand, take the money away."

Currently, the state may issue a claim against the redress payment after the death of a Medi-Cal recipient through the Medi-Cal Recovery Act. Once the redress payments pass into a person's estate, the state is able to put a lien against the estate to recover past Medi-Cal claims.

Although the money is exempt during a person's lifetime, it is not exempt in death. Senate Bill 353 would exclude redress payments from the Medi-Cal Recovery Act. It would prohibit the state from attaching redress payments for overpayment of Medi-Cal benefits.

Further, Johnston points out that although redress payments are exempt as cash for purposes of qualifying for Medi-Cal, goods purchased with these moneys

See BILL/page 6

## Washington state war dead honored

SEATTLE—Sen. Daniel K. Inouye and the Seattle Nisei Veterans Committee will dedicate a memorial to honor Washington state's Japanese war dead at a ceremony scheduled for Saturday, March 23, at 2 p.m. at Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall, 1212 S. King Street.

The ceremony will feature the unveiling of a memorial exhibit of photographs and biographical summaries of all but two of the 62 Japanese American war dead of the state.

A booklet called "Uncommon American Patriots," written by Dr. Francis M. Fukuhara, a former commander of the Nisei Veterans Committee, will be distributed to attendees.

INOUE

Further information on the event is available by contacting Teresa Mori, 206/725-4935.



## PROFILE

**NAME:** Jude Narita  
**BORN:** Long Beach, Calif.  
**OCCUPATION:** actress/writer, teacher  
**UPCOMING:** Performs best known work, "Coming of Age, Song for a Sansei," at the Japan America Theatre, 244 S. San Pedro St., Los Angeles, Saturday, May 25. Information: 213/680-3700.



## Jude Narita:

## Acting, naturally

By Richard Suenaga

She reaches down the Well of Souls—for the grit, the flaws, the feelings, the tugging range of human emotions—then pulls them up and peaks them into performance.

Acting performance. It is, Jude Narita says, *The Moment*. When it all comes together on stage. And for her it seems so simple.

"Nothing is tough about acting. It just happens for me. It's when I feel the most alive. Time just stands still when it works."

"I'm an actress because I have to be," Narita says. "I am an artist who has something to say—about truth, honesty, something about the human condition."

All of that acting talent was recently on stage at the East West Theatre in Hollywood where Narita was starring in an adaption of Henrik Ibsen's classic "Hedda Gabler."

Of her work in "Hedda" Los Angeles Times critic Robert Koehler described Narita's acting with phrases like "tour de force" and "Olympian acting chops."

You might say Narita was born to act. Well, almost. She started when

See ACTRESS/page 6

## Matsui campaigns

SACRAMENTO—Congressman Robert T. Matsui told members of the Democratic Party that they must work to re-earn the respect and support of the state's 43 percent minorities.

Speaking before the Democratic Party's state convention March 2 here, Matsui, who is running for the U.S. Senate in 1992, warned the party that its failure to win suburban and rural areas has resulted in losses in races for governor, senator and president in past elections.

"In order to win in 1992, I believe we must reclaim our

historic role as a catalyst for economic progress," Matsui said. "... Unless we as Democrats come to some basic realizations about the changing values of our state, embrace an economic reform agenda, and offer our multi-cultural society opportunities for economic growth and empowerment, we will lose election after election."

The Matsui campaign continues to seek support throughout the state, according to Paul Igasaki, former JACL Washington representative and now assisting with the congressman's campaign.

## More redress workshops

WASHINGTON, D.C.—More redress workshops have been announced by the Department of Justice.

Sessions will be held in the Pacific Northwest area in Spokane and Seattle, Wash., and in Portland, Ore.

Members of the Japanese American community will be offered one-on-one assistance with their redress cases.

The workshops will be led by a team of representatives from the Office of Redress which will provide answers to questions on individual case status and required documentation.

Here are workshop locations and dates:

• March 19, Highland Park United Methodist Church, 611 South Garfield, Spokane, Wash., 12 noon to 4 p.m.

• March 20, Epworth United Methodist Church, 1333 South East 28th St., Portland, Ore., 4 to 8 p.m.

• March 21, St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 1610 South King St., Seattle, Wash., 4 to 8 p.m.

More redress workshops will be scheduled around the country at later dates.



No. 2,611

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## Letters

### More on anti-Asian sentiment issue

I am writing in response to the letter published in the February 15, 1991 edition of the Pacific Citizen, submitted by Ed Suguro of Seattle, Washington. I find Mr. Suguro's letter to be based on misinformation and a lack of fundamental understanding concerning the issue of anti-Asian sentiment.

As one of the many individuals who worked with Mrs. Chin for the past 8 years, I am disturbed by the analysis of the Chin case, the facts, and the failure to recognize its historic significance for the Asian American community nationally, in Mr. Suguro's letter.

The misstatement of the facts, obtained from second hand reports in news articles which are unidentified in Mr. Suguro's comments, do a great disservice to the Asian American community. The word "Jap," as a result of the numerous interviews conducted with eyewitnesses to the killing, was reportedly never said. However, this is not the issue of the Chin case and the reason for the killing.

One of the murderers of Vincent Chin, Ronald Ebens, was a foreman for the Chrysler Corporation at the time of the killing. In his own twisted, evil mind, all Asians were indistinguishable...

The unmistakable conclusion is that the killing was based upon racial hatred towards an Asian...

For Mr. Suguro to say that because Ebens said the word "Chink" and "Chinaman" during the course of the murder of Vincent Chin makes the case any less significant to the Nikkei community, and not connected with the U.S.-Japan trade issue backlash, is

misguided...

There is a obvious connection between the countless acts perpetrated against Asians Americans throughout history. . . To truly understand the Chin case and its importance to the Asian American and Nikkei community, one must view the historical context.

The reporting of the Chin case by the Asian American press and media was highly accurate on the whole, and clearly had a direct impact on the decision of the U.S. Department of Justice to prosecute the case under the civil rights laws.

I hope that Mr. Suguro realizes that all Asian Americans, most particularly Japanese Americans, have a vital interest in the cause of the Chin killing and the implications of the case. Today, as we face the prospect of another recession, the cries of unfair trade policies and anti-Asian attitudes looms even larger. This will breed the very conditions which led to Vincent Chin's death. The scenario of an Asian American being attacked or killed has been repeated on numerous occasions over the past 9 years, and will continue so along as our society tolerates anti-Asian sentiment.

The issue of anti-Asian violence cuts across the entire Asian American community. Rather than trying to intellectually dissect the facts, Mr. Suguro needs to view the Vincent Chin case in its historic significance to all Asian Americans.

James W. Shimoura  
Bloomfield Hills, Mich.

### 'Infamy' book is still available

Recently while going through back issues of the Pacific Citizen I came upon a front page news article from the November 16, 1990 issue which I previously missed. The

bad news was that the book "Years of Infamy: The Untold Story of America's Concentration Camps" by Michi Weglyn was out of print. It was unbelievable that one of the most important books of our time written by a Nisei author should meet this fate.

I don't know where the PC received the item but it was my hope that this was just one of the very few times the paper received misinformation. Being a non-"shikata ga nai" type I want to set the record straight.

What turned up was the publisher William Morrow & Company, Inc. and the good news. To announce this I paraphrase Mark Twain by stating "that the reports of 'Years of Infamy' being out of print 'are greatly exaggerated.'" In fact the book is alive and well to have recently gone through a seventh printing in New York.

The best news to report is that copies can be ordered by calling the Japanese American Curriculum Project at 1-800-874-2242.

"Years of Infamy" is a must read not only for Japanese Americans and for our generations to come but for people everywhere. The book documents how liberty in America was betrayed and how 120,000 Japanese Americans were misguided and marched mutely into America's ten concentration camps.

Every month in February the Japanese American communities throughout our country celebrate a "Day of Remembrance." This is important but we must also remember to listen, speak out and march to the drum that beats liberation and not incarceration. Let's be forever vigilant to learn and not let history repeat itself for us and to others. There are 120,000 reasons for all of the above.

Stanley Kanzaki  
New York

## Calendar

Items for the Calendar must be submitted at least THREE WEEKS in advance of the day of event. Include day or night phone numbers for further information.

### • ARIZONA

May 5-11—Japan - Arizona Conference on Womens Issues, Crescent Hotel, Phoenix. Info: Global Interactions, Inc., 3332 W. Thomas Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85017, 602/272-3438, FAX 602/272-2260.

### • DENVER

Mar. 24—Story Behind Japanese American Redress, William Hohri, spkr, 3 p.m.; Simpson United Methodist Church, 6001 Wolf St., Arvada, Colo. Info: Peggy Lore 303/556-2578.

### • SALT LAKE CITY

Mar. 23—National JACL Credit Union annual meeting, dinner-dance, 6:30 p.m.; Clarion Hotel, 999 S. Main St.; RSVP Mar. 18, 801/355-8040 or 800/544-8828.

### • SEATTLE

Mar. 18—Tomo No Kai meeting, 7 p.m., Keiro Nursing Home, 1601 E. Yesler Way. Info: 206/641-7544.

Mar. 27—Premiere: Northwest Asian American Theater, Dreamweaver by Gary Iwamoto, Theater Off Jackson, 409-7th Ave. S; info: 206/340-1445.

Present-June 30—Wing Luke Asian Museum, History of Sagamiya Confectionery, 407 7th Ave. S. Adm \$2.50 adults, \$1 srs/students. Info: 206/623-5124.

Aug. 21-24—Asian American Journalists Assn. National convention, Sheraton Hotel & Towers, Seattle.

### • TULE LAKE

Sept. 27-29—Tule Lake Pilgrimage. Tour of Tule Lake Campsite, Abalone Hill & Castle Rock Tour Workshops. Memorial Service, cultural program. Info: San Francisco: Julie Hattat 415/221-2608 (eve), East Bay: Stephanie Miyahiro 415/524-2624, San Jose: Tom Izu 408/292-6938, Sacramento: Diane Tomoda 916/443-6917.

### • SAN JOSE

Present to Apr. 10—Yu-Ai Kai Japanese American Senior Center free tax help, provided by city-sponsored VITA for seniors from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Info: 408/294-2505.

Mar. 23—West Valley JACL potluck supper, new member welcome, 6 p.m.; bring own table service & main dish to share; chapter provides salad, beverage and dessert; Clubhouse, 1545 Teresita Dr., San Jose; info: David Muraoka 408/996-1976 or Doris Kasahara 374/6855.

Mar. 24—San Jose Japantown Business Assn.'s 25th annual dinner, Velvet Turtle, 380 S. Kiely.

Mar. 29—Phil Matsumura Testimonial Dinner, San Jose Hyatt House Mediterranean Center. Info: 408/295-1250, San Jose JACL.

Apr. 14—Yu-Ai Kai Fashion Show, 12 noon, Red Lion Inn, San Jose, \$35; info: 408/294-2505.

## Don't forget . . .

• Annual Credit Union meeting, Saturday, March 23, Clarion Hotel, 999 South Main, Salt Lake City, Utah, 6:30 p.m. Agenda: annual meeting, election of board members, dinner, entertainment, music and dancing. Reservations, credit union office: 801/355-8040, or 1/800/544-8828. Cost: non-members with reservations, \$12 each; non-reserved persons at the door, \$20 each.

• Health Fair Expo, sponsored by West Los Angeles Chapter, JACL, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., April 14, 2110 Corinth Ave. Free screening, blood pressure, vision, hearing, dental, foot and gait assessment; immunizations for pneumonia and tetanus; optional blood test, \$20, with results on 27 different chemistries. Also: nutrition learning center and stress assessment and reduction center. Information: John, 213/398-8072, Toy, 213/820-5250, or Eiko, 213/820-1875.

• Asian community concerns, San Fernando Valley, JACL, program involving Chinese, Korean, Filipino, Taiwanese and Vietnamese communities, Saturday, March 23, 7:30 p.m., 12953 Branford St., Pacoima, Calif. Reservations by March 18: Nancy, 818/899-4237, Pat, 818/765-7649. Information: Nancy Gohata, 818/899-4237.

• Japanese American Genealogy, free lecture by Dr. Akemi Kikumura, Monday, March 25, 7:30 p.m., West Los Angeles United Methodist Church, 1913 Purdue, sponsored by West Los Angeles Chapter, JACL. Information: Glen Omatsu, 213/825-3415.

• Celebration of National Women's History Month by Yu-Ai Kai, Japanese American Community Service, San Jose, Calif., Tuesday, March 19, 2 p.m., Issei Memorial Building, 565 N. 5th St. Information: Lisa Kuramoto, 408/294-2505, days.

April 28—Nikkei Matsuri / Benefit 8K-Nihonmachi Run, 9 a.m., start/finish Jackson St. btwn 6th-7th Sts., \$12 entry fee; by C.O.D.Y. Productions of Cupertino, info: Yu-Ai Kai, 565 N. 5th St., San Jose, 95112, 408/294-2505.

### • MARYSVILLE-YUBA CITY

Sept. 27-29—Third YSBC (Yuba, Sutter, Butte and Colusa Counties) Nikkei Reunion. Newsletter, registration info: Mazie Sasaki, 938 Chestnut St., Yuba City, CA 95991.

### • SACRAMENTO

March 23—VFW Post 8985 buffet Mexican dinner-dance, 6-10 p.m., Buddhist Church, 2401 Riverside Blvd.; info: 916/427-2259 or 391-5099. (Tickets will not be sold at the door.)

April 20—Off-Broadway Dance Club dinner-dance, 6-11 p.m., Red Lion Hotel, 2001 Point West Way; Fred Morgan, Famous Four-some, dance band; info: Bill Kashiwagi 916/635-2815 ore 427-2960. (Tickets will not be sold at the door.)

### • CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

Mar. 22-24—JACL Tri-District Conference, Visalia Holiday Inn (800/821-1127), \$90 regis—Fri mixer; Sat opening session, workshops (Anti-Asian violence, Jimmy Tokeshi; Textbooks, Greg Marutani; J.A. Image & Media, David Masumoto), BBQ dinner at Riata Ranch; Sun a.m. beverage/rolls, closing session. Cressey Nakagawa, Grayce Uyehara, special guests. Theme: "JACL in the 90s." Info: Larry Ishimoto 209/627-0442.

### • SAN FRANCISCO AREA

Mar. 16-17—National JACL board meeting,

9 a.m., JACL Headquarters. (JACL Legacy Fund Campaign meeting March 15, 3 p.m., at JACL Headquarters.)

Mar. 21—Commemoration Day for the late Marilyn Matsumoto Jones, principal, 7:30-9 p.m., Crocker Highlands Elementary School, 525 Midcrest Rd., Oakland; info: 415/832-6458.

April 6—Contra Costa JACL potluck dinner honoring seniors, scholarship awardees and new members, 5-8 p.m., Maple Hall, 1 Alvarado Square, San Pablo; RSVP by Mar. 25, Natsuko Irie 415/237-8730 btwn 7-10 a.m. or after 10 p.m.

April 7—Nisei Widowed Group, 2-4 p.m., Elsie Uyeda Chung's home, new members welcome; info: Elsie 415/221-0268 or Yuri Moriwaki 415/482-3280.

April 10—Plaque dedication to Katherine Maurer, Methodist deaconess who served Japanese and Chinese immigrants at the pre-war immigration station on Angel Island, 1:30 p.m., Angel Island. (Ferries from Tiburon, 10 a.m.)

April 10—Stanford University's Asian American Speakers Series: Emerald Yeh, Ch. 4 news anchor (tentative), 12n., Asian American Activities Center, Old Union Clubhouse; info: Don Fujino 415/497-6250 or Ed Morimoto 497-1172.

### • WATSONVILLE

May 5—Bonsai Club annual show, Watsonville Buddhist Temple, 423 Bridge St., 10 a.m.-5 p.m., plant sale and 2 p.m. demonstration.

See CALENDAR/page 5



## Agenda

### JACL

#### Salt Lake

The chapter announces its 1991 Utah Asian Festival, to be held May 4 at the Salt Palace. The format of the festival will feature cultural demonstrations, displays and ethnic foods.

The event will include a bike race/ride at Mill Creek Canyon Saturday, April 27, and a Miss Asia Utah contest scheduled for March 30. Joanne Hirase will represent the Japanese community in the contest. An Asian film festival will also be held in conjunction with the University of Utah.

In other chapter news, Salt Lake City will be the site for America Japan Week, May 25 through June 1. The event is a festival of Japanese activities being held in the U.S. for the first time. Featured will be parades, exhibits, demonstrations and events. More than 1,800 Japanese participants are expected to participate.

#### Wasatch Front North, Utah

The chapter recently announced new officers. They are:

George Sugihara, president; Tats Koga, vice president and redress monitor; Dick Kishimoto, membership chairman; Roy Taketa, Japanese Asian Affairs chairman; Min Hamada, treasurer; Fugie Kunimoto, social chairman; Elsie Akisada, co-social chairman; and Marion Hori, secretary.

### Arizona

The chapter has scheduled a variety of events in the near future. Among them are the scholarship awards banquet, to be held April 21 at the Fountain Suite Resort, Greenway Road and I-17, in Phoenix; Japan Week, May 1-10; and the Japan-U.S. Conference on Women's issues, May 5, 11, at the Crescent Hotel, Phoenix.

### Chicago

More than 1,200 people attended the Asian American Coalition of Chicago's Lunar New Year Celebration, Feb. 23, at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare Hotel.

The event brings together the largest pan-Asian gathering of the year—the Chinese, Japanese, Vietnamese, Korean, Cambodian, Filipino, Thai, Laotian, Hmong, Indian, Pakistani, Indonesian and Burmese communities.

This year, the Chinese American community hosted the event.

The event and the organization's goal is to unify the different Asian American communities and increase the visibility of Asian Americans as a rapidly growing and important political community.

Elected officials and political candidates are invited to come to the event, and this year, among the elected officials who gave welcomes were Gov. Jim Edgar, Mayor Richard Daley and U.S. Sen. Paul Simon.

Among the honored guests were the consul generals from the People's Republic of China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea and Thailand.

Keynote speaker was Dr. Chang Lin-Tien, chancellor of the University of California at Berkeley.

See AGENDA/page 5



**OFFICIALS**—Gathering for first meeting were Washington state Asian elected officers, from left, Lloyd Hara, Gene Matsusaka, Dolores Sibonga, Martha Choe, Art Wang, Cheryl Chow, Clarence Moriawaki, Gary Locke, Nemesio Domingo, Ben Kodama and Gene Liddell.

## Washington state Asians meet

**OLYMPIA**—More than 200 friends, supporters and state officials recently attended the first annual legislative reception for Asian elected officials of Washington state.

The group was formed to increase visibility of Asian Americans in politics and to create an understanding of the issues facing the Asian American community.

The organization's first goal was to meet with the governor to express concerns regarding more appointments of Asians as directors, judges and members of boards and commissions; state assistance to investigate the possibility of building multi-purpose centers and

language and dietary needs of Asian elderly; and additional funding for bilingual education and magnet programs.

Rep. Art Wang, chairman of the House Revenue Committee, emceed the event.

The highlight of the event was the introductions of 10 of the 21 elected Asian American officials by Rep. Gary Locke, chairman of the Appropriations Committee.

Present were Cheryl Chow and Dolores Sibonga, Seattle City Council members; Lloyd Hara, Seattle city treasurer; Clarence Moriawaki, Tukwila City Council member; Nemesio Domingo, Renton School Board member; Ben Kodama, Highline School Board member; Gene Matsusaka,

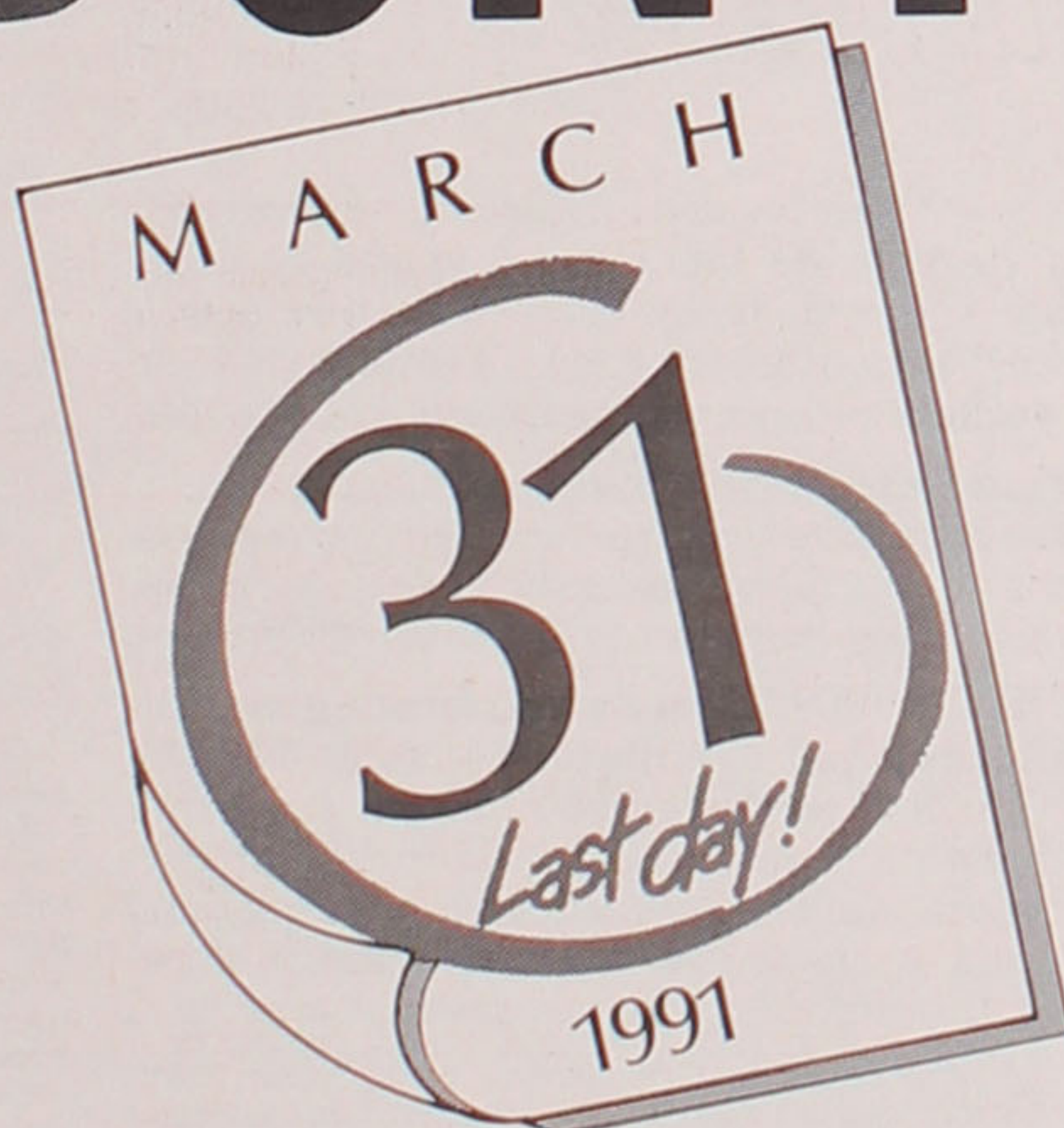
Tacoma School Board Member; Gene Liddell, Lacey mayor pro-tem; and Wang.

Martha Choe, candidate for Seattle City Council, was also present.

Not present were Tsugio Nakamura, Warden fire commissioner; Pauline Yamashita, Tacoma Civil Service Commission member; Richard Hsu, Forks City Council member; Alan Sugiyama, Seattle School Board member; Wayne Tanaka, Bellevue School Board member; Judges Warren Chan, Richard Ishikawa and Liem Eng Tuai, King County superior court judges; Mark Chow, Seattle District Court Judge; and C. Kimi Kondo and Ron Mamiya, Seattle Municipal Court judges.

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## PC editorial

Next call—  
More Asian voters

For the first time in California, Asians (2.8 million) outnumber Blacks (2.2 million), according to the 1990 Census. Eventually, there will be an ethnic breakdown of the Asian-Pacific Islander category.

Accurate data on color or race, on the number of foreign-born, population by age and sex, urban or rural, are essential to legislate constructively in these areas. Community planners are similarly dependent on the census as they work on new schools, streets and subdivision and other municipal needs. Large amounts of federal funds are disbursed on the basis of population.

But, the bottom line to the 1990 population story now flowering in the media is representation in Congress. The provision for a census was inserted in the original Constitution to make it possible for each state to determine its proportionate representation in House of Representatives.

The political wish of "fewer voters the better..." has long been discarded: beginning with adult white male with property in the founding days of the Republic. Voting rights were accorded the Blacks by the 15th Amendment in 1871, American Indian tribal citizens from 1901, the women by the 19th Amendment in 1919; the Chinese in 1942, the Filipinos in 1946, the Koreans and Japanese in 1952 when all racial barriers to voting were outlawed by the Walter-McCarran Act, elimination of literacy tests for registration by the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and lowering the voting age to 18 by the 26th Amendment in 1971.

While the process of counting is relatively simple, empowering the states to reapportion can stir a controversial scene—especially in a state, such as California, whose population has increased substantially and the one man-one vote rule.

Now that the counting is over (except for those monitoring the overcount and undercount), the responsibility still remains for each citizen to be a responsible voter—a basic principle which instituted the Japanese American Citizens League in 1929—to encourage voter registration, a JACL fundamental that should not be forgotten. More voters the better!

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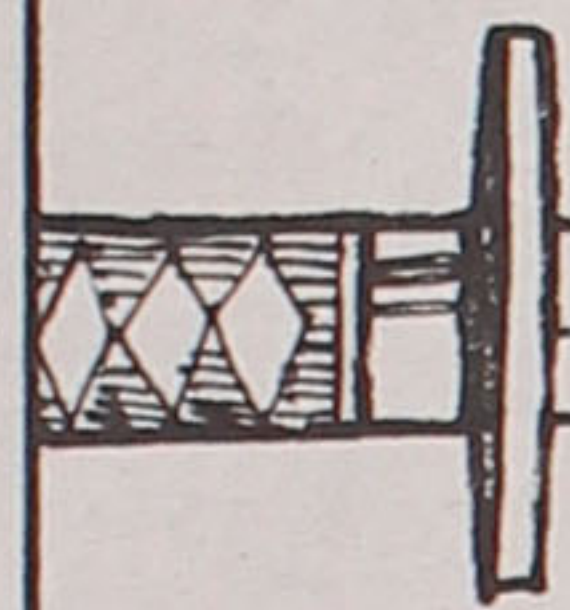
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## OPERATION DESERT SWORD

IT'S HARA-KIRI TIME, SADDAM-SAN.



Pete Hirouaka



From the frying pan

BILL HOSOKAWA

## English Language Teachers in Japan

For several days one recent week, I sat on a panel interviewing candidates for the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) program sponsored by the Japanese government. Now in its fifth year, this is mainly a program to send native English speakers to Japan for a year to help upgrade the quality of English language instruction in Japanese public schools. English is a compulsory subject in Japanese middle and high schools and they have been doing a fine job with grammar and reading. But they realized the need for outside help with the spoken language.

Some 900 Americans will go to Japan this year under the program as assistants to Japanese teachers of English. They will be joined by a number from last year's class who signed up for a second tour of duty, and somewhat lesser number of assistant English teachers from the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and Ireland.

(Can you imagine various Japanese kids speaking English with British, Australian, New Zealand and Irish accents in addition to an American Southern drawl? And arguing about the proper pronunciation?)

There has been no shortage of applicants for these positions, at least not in the United States. An opportunity to have one's air fare paid to visit Japan, and to be provided a salary somewhat higher than most school districts pay first-year teachers to work in an appealingly exotic country has attracted large numbers of candidates.

Not every applicant has what it takes to succeed as a teacher in Japan. That's the reason they are subjected to interviews after their detailed application forms are reviewed by a professional evaluating

organization.

JET would seem to be a great opportunity for Japanese Americans to get to know the country of their ancestors. A number have been accepted into the program, generally with good results for both the teachers and the host school districts.

But there is also a curious problem. It seems that the Japanese, particularly in rural areas, have a stereotypical expectation of seeing tall, blond and blue-eyed young Americans when they get a JET teacher. Sometimes there is disappointment and even consternation when the American JET turns out to be a fellow or a young lady who looks like any Japanese.

The unspoken question seems to be: Can this Japanese-looking person really speak proper English? And the problem becomes even more complicated when school officials discover that the Japanese American JET understands no Japanese, doesn't comprehend Japanese culture, and has difficulties fitting into the local scene.

Perhaps it is in anticipation of these problems that more Japanese Americans have not applied for JET positions. Of the 51 candidates our panel interviewed, four were Japanese Americans and one was a highly qualified Chinese American. (Although minorities are encouraged to apply, there was only one Hispanic and no African American this year.)

Ethnicity is no advantage under the rules. It is not giving away secrets to say that a number of candidates were, in the panel's opinion, rated above the Japanese Americans for a variety of reasons. And that seems to be a shame in a time when it is so important for Americans to understand Japan.)

East Wind

BILL MARUTANI

## San Joaquin Valley



The price of navel oranges are up, when you can find some. This is undoubtedly due to the heavy freeze that struck California's San Joaquin Valley back in December of last year. Having grown up outside the Seattle, Washington, area and now residing in the comparative isolation of the East Coast, I know very little about the geography of the Golden State. So I looked up the range of the citrus-growing valley we're talking about: it's boxed in—so to speak—by San Jose to the north, Los Angeles to the south, San Luis Obispo to the west and Fresno to the east, covering the counties of Madera, Fresno, Tulare and Kern.

TRANSLATING THE FREEZE into statistics from the California citrus industry: some 146,000 acres were involved with losses of 100% of the valencias and over 75% of navels and lemons. In just three counties—Fresno, Kern and Tulare, the "gate" loss to growers is said to total about \$500 million. And that doesn't include collateral losses of income to truckers, packers, processors, etc., down the line. It is estimated that somewhere in the range of 10,000-15,000 field workers and packers have no jobs as a result.

THOSE PARTICULARLY hard hit include many newly-documented workers as well as those in the midst of becoming documented, and some who had not initiated the process under the immigration amnesty program. Under immigration laws, newly-documented workers are eligible for a period of five years from receiving emergency benefits such as Aid

to Families with Dependent Children, medical care and food stamps. As for unemployment benefits, aside from the sufficiency of such to tide over a family after 26 months, it's gone. Of course, undocumented workers receive no unemployment benefits.

California state officials could petition the federal government to waive the five-year restrictive provision in the immigration laws; however, so far apparently no action has been taken toward that end.

HAVING GROWN UP in a small farming community and having had to endure the many deprivations of the '30s, perhaps not unlike a few other Nikkei, there's a streak of self-independent conservatism in me; a tendency to eschew complaining and advise others, perhaps even a bit arrogantly, to get off their duff and find a job, whatever it may be. I don't know about you, but much of that general attitude continues to reside in me. And so when I read an immigration official's comment that while the freeze in San Joaquin Valley was "unfortunate" but likened it to any other form of layoff—difficult, but not justifying a change in the law—I can comprehend the thought process behind it. Yet somewhere deep down I sense that there's something fundamentally wrong with such a simplistic assessment. I know that the "rules" have been at least bent in many other instances: when Chrysler Corporation received unprecedented government loans guarantees; when a New England banking institu-

## 1000 Club Honor Roll

THE DECEMBER GROUP

While the closing date for the Holiday Issue 1000 Club Honor Roll is Nov. 30, the Honor Roll Addendum this week is listing the missing 1000ers who renewed in December for 1990.

## PERENNIALS

ALAMEDA 22-Cookie Takeshita 31-Harry Ushijima	NEW MEXICO Life-Helene H Saeda
BERKELEY 28-James G Nishi Life-Neal Taniguchi 22-Yuriko Yamashita	NEW YORK 3-Howard Dreispain
BOISE VALLEY 28-Taka T. Kora	ORANGE COUNTY 24-Dr Samuel R Maehara 13-T Ben Takenaga
CHICAGO 1-May Imaoka 27-Hiroshi Miyake 34-Masa Nomura 8-Yoneko Shintani 18-John Sasaki 31-Kenji Tani 18-Tom Watanabe	PASADENA 34-Kay K Monma
CLEVELAND 28-James T Matsuoka	PLACER COUNTY 30-Harry Kawahata
DELANO 15-Ben Nagatani 35-Edward Nagatani 3-Lynn Nagatani 3-Mitsuko Nagatani	POCATELLO BLACKFOOT Life-Fujiye Itami
EAST LOS ANGELES 2-Dr Richard H Iwata	PORTLAND C-Life-Gary B Terusaki
FLORIN 4-Tom Kushi 1-Jane Winsberg	PUYALLUP VALLEY Life-Phyllis M Kanda
FRESNO 16-James Iwatsubo	RIVERSIDE 19-Anthony S Inaba
GRESHAM 38-Kazuo Kinoshita 33-Kazuma Tamura	SACRAMENTO 10-Tadashi Kono 21-Tom T Okubo
MARIN 17-Howard Okamoto 11-Patti Paganini	SAINT LOUIS 32-Richard T Henmi
MARYSVILLE Life-Frank S Hatamiya Life-Michiko Hatamiya 14-Robert H Inouye Life-Marianne Y Kyono Life-Ray Kyono 13-Larry Matsumura Life-Hatsuye Nakamura	SAN DIEGO Life-Dr Eiji C Amemiya Life-Bobbie J Johnson Life-Robert W Johnson Life-Jeffrey T Kida Life-Derek T Obayashi Life-Keith A Obayashi Life-Norman K Orida
MILE-HI 30-John T Noguchi	SAN FRANCISCO 23-Dr Lawrence T Nakamura
MILWAUKEE 19-Thomas T Sasaki	SEATTLE 16-Mas Odoi
	SEQUOIA 31-Dr Hunter T Doi
	SNAKE RIVER VALLEY 26-George T Okita
	SONOMA COUNTY 34-Frank Y Takahashi
	STOCKTON 25-Dr M Lincoln Yamaguchi 1-Suellen U Yoneda

## 1000 Club Roll

Year of Membership Shown  
\*Century, \*\*Corp/Silver, \*\*\*Corp/Gold  
\*\*\*\*Corp/Diamond; L-Life; M-Memorial

The 1990 Totals	(Life)
Previous total: Active	392 (31)
Report No. 10: Feb 11-15	42 (8)
Current Total	434 (39)

Chicago: 27-Ted I Miyata.  
Cincinnati: 3-Dewey Kawamoto.  
Cleveland: 19-Shig Iseri.  
Contra Costa: 28-James Kimoto, 37-Tamaki Ninomiya, Life-Kiyoshi Yamashita.  
Dayton: 18-Donald L Hayashi.  
Detroit: 5-Dr Gerald Shimomura.  
Downtown Los Angeles: 34-Chester I Katayama, 9-Ronald Wakabayashi.  
Fort Lupton: 37-Jack Tshura, 36-Frank Yamaguchi.  
Lodi: 17-Keiji Fujinaka.  
Milwaukee: 1-Takako Maeda.  
New Mexico: 14-Randolph Shibata.  
New York: 13-Amy E Fujimura\*.  
Omaha: 9-Rudy Mudra.  
Philadelphia: 18-Hisaye N Takashima.  
Portland: 26-Jim S Onchi.  
Puyallup Valley: 33-Dr Victor I Moriyasu.  
Sacramento: 31-Mitsui Hironaka, 35-Arthur Miyai, 32-George S Oki\*.  
Salt Lake City: 22-James S Konishi.  
San Jose: 24-Joe K Jio, 5-Frank Togami.  
San Luis Obispo: Life-Kazuo Ikeda.  
Santa Barbara: 8-Emily K Mori, 10-Joe Mori.  
Stockton: Life-Dr Jamie C Low, Life-Dr Alan H Matsumoto, C-Life-William U Nakashima, C-Life-Yone Nakashima.  
Torrance: 1-Peter Yamaguchi\*.  
Venice Culver: 4-Melvin Shimizu.  
Wasatch Front North: 33-Toyoe T. Kato.  
Watsonville: 5-Kee S Kitayama, Life-Masami Manabe.  
West Los Angeles: 34-Dr Toru Iura, 11-Harry Kitano.  
West Valley: 23-Dr Raymond Uchiyama.  
National: Life-Matsuye D Matsumoto.

## CENTURY LIFE

William U Nakashima (Sto), Yone Nakashima (Sto).  
LIFE (L) / MEMORIAL (M)  
Kiyoshi Yamashita (CnC), Kazuo Ikeda (Sto), Dr Jamie C Low (Sto), Dr Alan H Matsumoto (Sto), Masami Manabe (Wat), Matsuye D Matsumoto (Nat).  
CENTURY CLUB\*  
13-Amy E Fujimura (NY), 18-George S Oki (Sac), 1-Peter Yamaguchi (Tor).

The 1990 Totals	(Life)
Previous total: Active	434 (39)
Report No. 11: Feb 18-22	27 (7)
Current Total	461 (46)

Chicago: 8-Dr Theodore T Yenari.  
Detroit: 24-George T Doi.  
East Los Angeles: 7-Linda A Fujioka.  
Honolulu: 10-Sam Okimoto.  
Hoosier: 11-Shirley Nakatsukasa, 11-Walter Nakatsukasa.  
Orange County: 25-Dr George N Asawa, 20-Henry Neishi.  
Pacific Long Beach: 20-Kazuko Matsumoto.  
Philadelphia: Life-George K Higuchi.  
Sacramento: 34-Dr George Muramoto.  
St Louis: 7-Roy S Yamahiro.  
Salinas Valley: 20-Shiro Higashi.  
San Diego: Life-Robert W Johnson, Life-Jeffrey T Kida, Life-Derek T Obayashi, Life-Keith A Obayashi.  
San Francisco: 11-Yonemitsu Arashiro, 11-Hermon J Baker, Jr.  
Seattle: 7-Paul Isaki\*.  
Stockton: Life-N Bernice Endow, Life-Edward A Endow, 30-Dr Kenneth Fujii, 27-George Y Matsumoto.  
Venice Culver: 35-Dr C Robert Ryono.  
Washington, DC: 23-Joseph M Hirata, 6-Wayne R Yoshino.

## LIFE (L) / MEMORIAL (M)

George K Higuchi (Phi), Robert W Johnson (SD), Jeffrey T Kida (SD), Derek T Obayashi (SD), Keith A Obayashi (SD), N Bernice Endow (Sto), Edward A Endow (Sto).  
CENTURY CLUB\*  
6-Paul Isaki (Set).

See EAST WIND/page 6



## CALENDAR

(Continued from page 1)

**April 17**—Stanford University's Asian American Speakers Series: "Japanese American Amerasian Multi-Ethnic Identity"—Velina Hasu Houston, writer, artist, 8 p.m., Asian American Activities Center, Old Union Clubhouse; info: Don Fujino 415/497-6250 or Ed Morimoto 497-1172.

**April 24**—Stanford University's Asian American Speakers Series: "Hate Crime on the Rise?"—Dr. Alan Seidd (APACC), Dennis Hayashi (Asian Law Caucus), Chuong Chung (UC-Berkeley, SF State), 8 p.m., Asian American Activities Center, Old Union Clubhouse; info: Don Fujino 415/497-6250 or Ed Morimoto 497-1172.

**April 28**—Contra Costa JACL Ladies Day, "Japanese Style Gift Wrapping," (Bring small box & paper), 2-3:30 p.m., Japanese Free Methodist Church, 5395 Potrero Ave., El Cerrito; info: Natsuko Irei 415/237-8730.

**May 4**—Japanese Evangelical Missionary Society (JEMS) women's luncheon, 9:30-1 p.m., San Lorenzo Japanese Christian Church; info: 415/651-7766.

**May 8**—Stanford University's Asian American Speakers Series: "Breaking the Glass Ceiling"—Henry Der, Bill Wong & Other Panelists, 8 p.m., Asian American Activities Center, Old Union Clubhouse; info: Don Fujino 415/497-6250 or Ed Morimoto 497-1172.

### • LOS ANGELES AREA

**Mar. 22**—Asian Pacific Women's Network 10th anniversary Woman Warrior Awards dinner, Bonaventure Hotel, Los Angeles; Honorees: State Supreme Court Justice Joyce Kennard, Irene Hirano; info: Marcella Low, 213/689-3267.

**April 7**—Visions for Keiro benefit dinner-dance, Hyatt Regency, Los Angeles; School Board member Warren Furutani, special guest; Music Co., entertainment; info: Margaret Endo, 213/263-5693.

**April 17**—West L.A. JACL Auxiliary/Venice Japanese Community Center Queen's Luncheon, 12n, Venice Community Center. Info: 213/8210-3237.

**April 27**—East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center Queen's Pageant, ESGVJCC. Info: Julie Tsuneishi 213/628-1365 days, 728-6167 eve or Center,

818/960-2566. (Orientation meeting—Mar. 17, 2 p.m. at Center.)

**May 31**—Deadline for nominations of individuals/organizations whose achievements helped introduce or preserve aspects of JA cultural heritage requested by Japanese American Historical Society; for forms, contact Iku Kiriya (JAHSSC, P.O. Box 3164, Torrance, CA 90510), 213/326-0608 or 213/323-8981. Four \$500 awards to be presented Sept. 28 at Shangri-La Restaurant.

**Aug. 10-18**—51st annual Nisei Week Festival, Little Tokyo. Info: 213/687-7193.

## Reunions: 1991

**Berkeley Japanese Women Alumnae, May 4**—Luncheon reunion of classmates and friends, Alumni House. Contact: Toyoko Toppata, 2332 California St., Berkeley, CA 94703, 415/548-6362.

**Fourth All-Imperial Valley, April 19-20**—Reunion, Saturday, April 20, New Holiday Inn, 19800 S. Vermont, Torrance, CA. Cost is \$27 per person, dinner, 7:30 p.m. Info: George Komatsu, 1313 W. 140th St., Gardena, CA 90247, 213/327-9812. Imperial Valley Golf Classic, Royal Vista Country Club on Friday, April 19, 1 p.m.

**Laguna School, June 30**—Reunion [of pre-war Bell/Montebello area residents and students], 11:30 a.m., Ginza Garden Restaurant, 1636 W. Redondo Beach, Gardena; RSVP \$15 lunch—Tei Hoshi, 1135 N. Pollock St., South San Gabriel, CA 91770; info: Ayako Takemoto Nakatani 213/530-3448; Rose Maruki Kakuuchi 213/721-6954; Mush Komaki 714/776-3385.

**Military Intelligence Service Language School, Oct. 29-Nov. 2**—50th Anniversary Reunion, Oct. 29-31 at San Francisco, Miyako Hotel; Nov. 1-2 at Monterey

Hyatt Regency / Defense Language Institute, Presidio of Monterey, Calif.; pre-registration Aug. 15; info: P.O. Box 2350, San Jose, CA 95109.

**Poston Block 17 Camp Reunion, late October**—Details to be announced. Former Block 17 residents can contact the following for information & future mailings: Los Angeles—Bill Nishijima, (213) 327-9702; San Luis Obispo/Sta Maria—Louise Elliston, (805) 489-3332; Santa Clara Valley/Gilroy—Mineo Sakai, (408) 842-5316; San Benito County—Moosh Fujita, (408) 779-4654; and San Francisco/Bay—Lois Yonemoto, (415) 221-9642.

**Poston III Reunion, May 3-5**—in San Diego. Mailing info: Yuki Kawamoto (619) 239-0896 before noon; booklet info: Tom Ozaki (619) 479-7582; display info: Ben Segawa (619) 482-1736.

**Tri-State Buddhist Temple's 75th Anniversary, July 5-6**—A combination 75th Year Anniversary/Reunion in Denver. Contact Reunion Committee, 1947 Lawrence St., Denver, CO 80202.

**YSBC (Yuba-Sutter-Butte-Colusa) Counties, Sept. 27-29**—Third Nikkei Reunion slated. Info: Mazie Sasaki, 938 Chestnut St., Yuba City, CA 95991.

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NINA YOSHIDA, Translator

## AGENDA

(Continued from page 3)

### Riverside

Guest speaker Jimmy Tokeshi, PSWDC regional director, delivered his speech on anti-Asian violence, terrorism, and the human rights implications of the Persian Gulf war "by proxy" as he was unable to attend because of illness. Douglas Urata scrambled at the last minute to pick up the text and read it for the Riverside JACL installation dinner Feb. 10 at the University of California Riverside campus.

Among the major events this year for the chapter are the annual Sendai Festival and scholarships. Support for UC-Riverside's Asian Pacific American Heritage Week program in mid-February, bone marrow testing for the Japanese American registry and the Aki Maehara tenure case at Cal Poly Pomona was also encouraged.

Urata also swore in the new chapter officers led by Michiko Yoshimura, who is serving her second term after a lapse of several years and succeeds Meiko Inaba. Also sworn in were:

Henry Nakakihara, vice president; Lorna Nakamura, Katherine Kumamoto, co-treasurers; Lily Taka, recording secretary; Beverly Inaba, corresponding secretary; Meiko Inaba, membership; Irene Ogata, historian; Mable Bristol, newsletter; Sumi Harada, Sunshine; William Takano, LEC; Dr. Gen Ogata, 1000 Club; Dr. Junji Kumamoto, redress & civil rights; Douglas Urata, PSWDC rep.; insurance; Douglas Kano, Mark Takano, at-large.

### Ventura

Chapter members and guests recently gathered at Harbortown Hotel to hear guest speaker, Dr. Harry Kitano, professor of social welfare and endowed chair, Japanese American Studies, UCLA, discuss differing values that shape individuals and the affect they have on the individual, family and society.

The chapter also installed new officers. They are Stan Mukai, Chuck Kuniyoshi, Sumiko Kato, Ken Nakano, Jean Kuniyoshi, Mori Abe, Joanne Nakano, Ellen Matsuo, Anne Asaoka, Harry Kajihara, Janet Kajihara, Mitzi Ogata and Yas Umeda.

The chapter also recognized Ventura County Supervisor John K. Flynn with an appreciation plaque. Flynn supported JACL's redress pursuit by persuading his fellow supervisors to support it.

The evening concluded with drawings for door prizes and all attendees left with a bag full of locally grown vegetables donated by agribusiness friends.



**ORGANIZERS**—David Mas Masumoto, chairman of the Fresno Assembly Center Project, and Elisa Kamimoto, curator, of the Fresno Metropolitan Museum, pose in front of exhibit at recent reception.

### Fresno

A capacity crowd attended the recent Fresno Assembly Center Memorial Project reception held at the Fresno Fairgrounds.

Former internees as well as the general public, viewed the "Wall of Names" listing the heads of households and their families who were interned there prior to being evacuated to Jerome, Ark., for the duration of WWII.

The Fresno Assembly Center opened in April of 1942 and housed more than 5,000 internees. It closed in October of 1942.

David Masumoto, program chairman, acknowledged the individuals and organizations for their support in sponsoring the memorial project: Paul Saito, landscape architect who di-

rected the memorial garden construction; Ron Miller, general manager of the Fresno District Fair; Elisa Kamimoto, curator of the Fresno Metropolitan Museum and Fresno JACL board member; the CC Nikkei Foundation; the Fresno Metropolitan Museum; and Brian Tatarian, Fresno District Fair Board.

Rev. Roger Morimoto of the United Japanese Christian Church chaired a discussion about life at the Fresno Assembly Center with former internees Nori Masuda and Jane Shoji of Fresno and Lisa Sano, sansei/yonsei representative.

Dr. Kikuo Taira also spoke and members of the audience joined in on the discussion as well.

### Honolulu

The board of directors recently formed the chapter's first Legislative Action Committee to initiate and monitor legislative activities related to civil rights, ethnic minorities, education and culture.

Recently, the chapter has been active in the State House and Senate, instrumental in introducing an education bill for a civil rights curriculum and a bill that would fund a film on the history and culture of Americans of Japanese ancestry in Hawaii.

In addition, the chapter is involved with lobbying efforts as well

as monitoring legislation related to foreign investment. During the 1990 legislative session, the chapter helped to defeat proposed alien land laws that would have prohibited resident aliens from purchasing residential and agricultural lands in Hawaii.

In other matters, the chapter re-elected William M. Kaneko as president. Other officers are: Allicyn Hikida, first vice president; Julie Ushio, second vice president; Gordon Lee, third vice president; Bob Iinuma, treasurer; Jinny Shinsato, secretary; and Clayton Ikei, legal counsel.



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



## Personally speaking

► **Charlotte Sato, 39**, special assistant attorney general with the California Department of Justice, has been appointed to the department executive staff by Attorney General Dan Lungren. She was a legislative assistant and counsel to then-Congressman Dan Lungren after he was first elected in 1978. She entered into private practice in 1982 in Claremont, Calif., and continued her career as program manager for the Episcopal Service Alliance in 1987 and 1988, an organization dedicated to assisting recent immigrants to the U.S. during the federal government's immigration amnesty program. She received her bachelor's degree in Political Science from UCLA in 1973 and graduated from USC Law School in 1978.

► **Tina Kagi**, a Spokane resident attending the University of Idaho, had penned a guest column last Oct. 14 in the *The Spokesman-Review and Spokane Chronicle* on redress and that the government's apology was too late for many Japanese Americans. She recalled her grandfather's internment and post WWII experiences of silent embarrassment, losing everything he owned, and now 92 years old will likely pass away before his apology arrives. "The American government should have made an apology to these people, without a check, long ago. At least some of them would be alive to have the *traitor* status they have worn as a badge of shame for so many years renounced," she felt. Several days later, **Idaho Governor Cecil D. Andrus** responded personally to Tina: "Your grandfather has to be a very special man to have survived the indignities he suffered and gone on to raise such a fine family. . . . When his time to leave this earth comes, his great legacy of courage and integrity will remain as an example for all of us."

► The Japanese Canadian architectural firm of **Raymond Moriyama / Ted Teshima**, Toronto, will design a \$12 million performing arts center in Guelph, Ont., having been selected from over 30 contenders. The center will be a cultural civic complex. Moriyama, who designed the Ontario Science Center, Metro Toronto Library and the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo (now under construction), has been professionally recognized for his achievements.

► **Joyce Iwaki Shatsky** has been appointed by Yu-Ai Kai as its representative on the SSI outreach project. Yu-Ai Kai will work under the direction of the parent organization, Outreach and Escort Inc. (O & E) of Santa Clara County. O&E received funding for this new program under a federal grant and will work closely with Social Security Administration. Joyce did her undergraduate studies at UCLA and received her masters degree in social welfare from San Jose State University.

► **Theodore H. Okiishi**, professor of mechanical engineering, chairs the Department of Mechanical Engineering at Iowa State University. He returned to ISU in 1967 after a year as a U.S. Army research engineer at the NASA Lewis Research Center in Cleveland, Ohio, and another year as a Corps of Engineers hydraulic engineer at the Combined Intelligence Center in Saigon, South Vietnam. His research has focused on experimental studies of turbomachinery fluid dynamics.

## BILL

(Continued from page 1)

can be considered nonexempt property. The new bill states that any goods purchased with redress money would also be considered exempt property.

Further, in the case where a spouse receives his or her deceased spouse's redress money directly from the federal government, the money is considered exempt for purposes of qualifying for Medi-Cal. However, if a spouse is alive and receives the money, and subsequently dies, and the money is inherited by the surviving spouse, the money is no longer considered exempt because it is then considered an inheritance, not redress money. Senate Bill 353 reaffirms that the money is exempt regardless of whether the spouse was dead or alive at the time of the

► **Jeanne Kim** of the Asian Pacific American Legal Center's (APALC) Downtown Immigrant Advocates project has recently joined the APALC staff as the Outreach Coordinator for their campaign to educate the Asian Pacific communities to combat employment discrimination. Her first assignment will focus on recent changes in U.S. labor law.

► Three prominent Puyallup Valley JACLers have recently made the local press: **H. Del Tanabe**, chapter president, is serving on the advisory board of the Pierce County (Wash.) aging and long-term care committee, Department of Human Services. . . . **Bob Mizukami**, current 1000 Club chair, was appointed to the Pierce College Foundation Board. . . . **Joseph Kosai**, chapter recording secretary, was elected president of the Tacoma Buddhist Church.



**PHIL MATSUMURA**  
Community service honor

► **Phil Matsumura**, longtime San Jose community leader, will be honored at a dinner at the San Jose Hyatt House Mediterranean Center on March 29. He has been described as one of the most civic-minded individuals in the community. Sponsoring organizations are the Adult Buddhist Association, Community Youth Service, Fuji Towers, San Jose Buddhist Church, San Jose JACL, Young Japanese Adults, and the Zebras.

► **Tomio Taki, 56**, Keio University graduate in 1958 and chairman of Takihyo, Inc. (U.S. corp.), was named to the Whittier College board of trustees for a three-year term. The parent company in Japan is a 230-year-old family business now involved with ready-to-made fashions, food, chemical products, carpeting, housing and real estate. Taki moved to the U.S. in 1978.

► **Katie Hironaka** was among 12 Santa Clara County residents awarded the Martin Luther King, Jr. "Good Neighbor Award," sponsored by the Martin Luther King, Jr. Association of Santa Clara Valley. Recipients of the annual awards are community members who exemplify the spirit of volunteerism. She was honored for her involvement in the Japanese American community. For the past 15 years, she has served on the board of the San Jose Chapter of JACL and a founder of the Nisei Singles along with a singles club for the younger generation and she is also a member of the Yu-Ai Kai Board of Directors.

receipt of the money.

According to Johnston, the Department of Health Services changed its policy three times regarding the handling of redress payments for Medi-Cal recipients, resulting in confusion.

## EAST WIND

(Continued from page 4)

tion ran into financial difficulties, the federal deposit insurance limit of \$100,000 was ignored so that all depositors, regardless of the amount they had with the ailing bank, were guaranteed return of their monies.

**MY CONSERVATISM**, developed back in that farm community in the Pacific Northwest, somehow tells me that the same rules should apply to all segments of our society. Across the board.

## ACTRESS

(Continued from page 1)

just toddling around in Long Beach, Calif.—or, really, dancing around, listening to music, feeling the rhythm, loving to perform.

She was acting by the 8th grade, in school and community theater. By 16 she tried out for a role in "The Sand Pebbles." She didn't get the role but she met director Robert Wise and actor Mako.

She did the usual stunts in "West Side Story" and "Flower Drum Song." When she was 18, she danced with an Asian revue in the Latin Quarter in New York, and just hung out at the Village as actors did in those days.

Narita did the usual knocking on doors and took requisite bicoastal instruction from acting gurus Lee Strasberg and Stella Adler.

One of her first breaks came when she got a role in "The Basic Training of Pavlo Hummel," a Jon Voight production.

But what she is best known for is her one-woman stage show called "Coming Into Passion, Song for a Sansei."

Narita wrote the piece as a way of showing real Asian women with real experiences. The portrayals are wide ranging, performed with sensitivity, dignity and humor. Among the characters are a tough, street-wise Japanese American teenager trying to deal with her cultural identity, and others—a Vietnamese prostitute, Hiroshima children who survived the atomic bomb, a Filipino mail-order bride and a Nisei woman interned during World War II.

Through it all, Narita focuses on the human spirit—Asian, yes—but basic to all. She talks about humanity and human values. "I've taken (my show) everywhere,

to middle America, and the response has been wonderful," she says. "If it's truthful and not dogmatic it works."

She is, then, fulfilled—creatively, emotionally—secure in her art. She maintains high standards and doesn't feel the need to bend them to reach the right role. She doesn't seem to anguish the blood and bone of her characterizations, but digs down deeply nonetheless and plucks out something real and human. She has come to learn the toughest role of all: herself. And that's a comfort level she enjoys and shares—uncommonly—with colleagues and young, aspiring Asian writers and actors.

Because she feels strongly about saying something—hopefully positive in one way or another—about the human condition, she says her experience with "Hedda Gabler" was bittersweet. Despite good reviews, she had problems with the production. "An actor opens channels, shows the individual, the human comes through. Hedda is difficult. Hedda is different. It didn't contain a message I cared for."

"Hedda is considered a strong role. But (author) Ibsen had a loveless marriage and was afraid of relationships. He wrote a honest commentary of his times, but Hedda is a non-nurturing role. She's neurotic, ruthless."

The experience, though, has given her new insight into the

classics. Narita says she no longer has a kind of blind awe of them. "The classics are an individual thing," she says. Shakespeare is in a class by himself, Strindberg, too, and Shaw liked women."

She'll know next time, she adds.

These kinds of experiences have helped Narita with her strong sense of what being an actress means.

"Talent is a small percent of what makes an artist good. You have to have tenacity, you have to be focused and disciplined. For some, it's a gift, like a pure voice. But what I've learned is not to give in on my performance—to be an artist."

"I will always know how to put up a show, how to write, produce it, act in it. I feel very competent, secure."

For Narita, the art of acting also gives her a sense of giving. In her one-woman show, she always talks to members of the audience after the show. She likes to encourage other Asian actresses.

She often conducts workshops to help women writers and actresses with their work. "I'm in a unique position. I'm working as an actress and I'm also teaching. I'll be at five colleges this month. I like to help Asian women with their productions, make them better. I think I have a good eye, I can encourage them, help them with their writing, producing, acting."

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## Obituaries

**Nishioka, Kiyomi**, 78, Los Angeles, Jan. 21; Honolulu-born, survived by w Yayeko, s Kenji, d Sachiko Nishioka, Setsuko Costley, 2gc, br Fujio, Sadao, Goichi (all Brazil), sis Mitsuyo Nishioka (Brazil), in-law br Satoshi Nishioka.

**Noda, Nobuo**, 89, Los Angeles, Feb. 15; Wakayama-born, survived by w Kimiye, s Takeshi, Gene, d Tayeko Inatomi, 7gc, in-law Kiyoshi Ouchida, sis Yasuyo Tsujimura.

**Ohama, William**, 70, Los Angeles, Dec. 25; Gilroy-born, survived by w Tomoko, s Steven, d Christine, br George (Fresno), Ben (Philadelphia), sis Haruko Umino (Santa Barbara).

**Okano, Jack**, 83, Gardena, Feb. 3; Hiroshima-born naturalized U.S. citizen, survived by w Mitsuye, d Tatsuye Kuga, Nobue Boal, Joanne, 3gc, 3ggc, in-law br George, Howard, James, Itsuo and Robert Horii, sis Fumiko Okano, Mary Kajiyama, Aiko Kawamoto.

**Okawa, Sousetsu**, 86, Los Angeles, Feb. 12; Japan-born founder-instructor of Chado Edo Senke, survived by gd Janice Also-Edesa (Mme. Sumako Azuma III), foster gd Yoko Okada, in-law s Daniel Aiso.

**Okuna, Yoneko**, 82, Stockton, Jan. 23; Salinas-born, survived by d Masako Kawamoto, Kimiko Sechler, gc.

**Onishi, Kenichi**, 75, Los Angeles, Feb. 16; Los Angeles-born, survived by w Kiyoko, s Kenji, Jiro, Kiyomi, 1gc.

**Otsuji, Sei**, 97, Benicia, Jan. 13; Kagoshima-born, survived by s Ichiro, Hideyo, d Mary Iwanaga, Alice Hager, Ruth Sugimoto, Margaret Harry, Sachio Broughton, gc & ggc.

See OBITUARIES/page 8

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## OBITUARIES

(Continued from page 7)

**Ota, Ralph K.**, 72, Torrance, Feb. 3; San Gabriel-born, survived by w Sueko, s Bill, d Carol Ota, Grace Clippinger, 1gc, br George, Tom (Sacramento), Ely Yoshito, sis Natsuko Sakai, in-law sis Haruko Ota (Va.), Haruko Saito (Jpn).

**Otani, Noboru**, 68, Mill Valley, Jan. 31; Wakayama-born, Jan. 31; survived by w Suzuyo, sis Hanayo Kinoshita, Hideko Nakamura (both Jpn).

**Sakamoto, Janet**, Cathedral City, Feb. 11; survived by p Charles, br Garrett, sis Lynn, Karen Kiyari, gm Matsuno Masato.

**Sameshima, Yukio**, 65, Greeley, Dec. 7; Santa Rosa-born WWII veteran and farmer, survived by w Hana, s Gordon, Bradley, d Patricia, Vicki, Shari Griffin.

**Sanders, Mleko**, Gardena, Feb. 16; Japan-born, survived by h Larry, s Terry, Gary, Larry Dean, 2gc, sis Michiko Nakazawa, br Kenji, Shuji, Sadaharu Masuda (all Jpn).

**Sato, Niro**, 72, Palo Alto, Feb. 13; Alameda-born, survived by w Jessie, s Daniel, br Goro.

**Setoguchi, Takako**, 75, West Los Angeles, Feb. 4; Visalia-born, survived by h Henry, s Yoshio, Robert, Saburo, Sadao, Yukio, 6gc, br Harry Nakashima (Denver).

**Shimada, Matsue**, 68, Culver City, Jan. 15; Chiba-born, survived by h Hisao, s Toshiyuki, d Sachie Olson, 1gc.

**Shimizu, Haruko**, 80, Los Altos, Jan. 29; Washington State-born, survived by w Harry, Tony, Jack, d Jean Takahashi, Sumi Ogata, Rosie Uyeda, gc and ggc, br Tom Kinohara, sis Mary Nakano, in-law br Kiyoshi and Bill Shimizu.

**Shiroishi, Tsugiyue**, Hyattsville, Md., Feb. 1; survived by sis Sumiko Arashiro, Yoshiko Oda, Mineko Lewis, br Katashi Shiroishi.

**Sowa, Fusa**, 98, Los Angeles, Feb. 4; Hyogo-born naturalized U.S. citizen, survived by s Rev. John Minabe (Anaheim), Peter Sowa (Rowland Heights), d Mary Kajiwara (Chicago), Miyoko Sawada (Alabama), 10gc, 4ggc.

**Sueyasu, Lane K.**, 36, Palo Alto, Jan. 28; San Francisco-born, survived by w William, Aiko, sis Linda Iwamoto, Sharon, Sandra Cox, Sherrie.

**Sumi, Toshiko**, 84, Gardena, Feb. 11; Wakayama-born, survived by s Kazuaki Suzuki (Jpn), d Hiroko Mine, Sumie Suzuki, 2gc, sis Atsuyo Hayashi (Jpn).

**Sunada, Teruko**, 70, West Los Angeles, Jan. 25; Los Angeles-born, survived by h Masaru, br Masao Tsukuda, sis Kiyoko Komura (Jpn), Mabel Tsukuda, in-laws br Shigeru Sunada, Shigenobu Sakahara, Shigeto Sakahara, Tussy Umeda.

**Suyenaga, Frank S.**, 70, Covina, Feb. 19; Stockton-born WWII veteran, survived by w Thelma, s Ken, Riki, d Rei, 3gc.

**Rev. Syaku, Nippo**, 80, San Francisco, Feb. 10; Nichiren Buddhist minister, survived by w Hamako, s Ikuo Aoyagi, d Reiko Inoue, Ruri Sakurada, 3gc, br Shinsho Mori, Shinjo Aoyagi, sis Kazue Yoshida, Tsuru Aoyagi.

**Tagawa, Frank T.**, 77, Denver, Feb. 15 (funeral); Santa Rosa-born, survived by w Taeko, s Howard, Gene (Agoura Hills, Calif.), Kenneth, d Janice, br Henry, Bill, sis Terumi Okita (Jpn), Chiyeiko Miyamoto (Harbor City), Kinuye Sasaki (Cambridge).

**Taguchi, Shigeo**, 70, Gardena, Feb. 15; Venice-born, survived by w Yoshi, s John, Gene, d Marian, in-law br Harry, Ken, Saburo, Shiro, Goro Akune (Chicago), sis Kikuko Ego.

**Takahashi, Betsy K.**, 66, Los Angeles, Jan. 25; Maui-born, survived by h Richard, br Isao Onouye (Honolulu), Tsutomu, Dal Onouye, sis Tokiko Koizumi, Natsuko Taoka (both Honolulu), in-law br Robert Okamura (Santa Clara), sis Dorothy Onouye.

**Takahashi, Keo**, 72, Foster City, Feb. 9 in Cancun; Astoria, Ore.-born, survived by w Toshiye, s Milton (La Mesa), James, d Joan (Millbrae), 2gc, m Sumi (Jpn), sis Hisaye Yoshikawa, Chiyeiko Matsui (Jpn).

**Takeda, Fred Y.**, 65, Anaheim, Jan. 23; Elk Grove-born, survived by w Reiko, d Sharon Nishimura, 2gc, br Paul, Harris, Alfred and Tom, sis Lucy Kitayama, Frances Ikeda (Hawaii), Lorraine Watanabe (Jpn), in-law br Eddie Robinson (Kansas), Tomoyuki Kato, Katsumi Kato (both Jpn), sis Kyoko Kato (Jpn).

**Takesue, Shige**, 87, Harbor City, Dec. 16; Hawaii-born, survived by s Akinobu, d Kazuko Munechika, Grace, 4gc.

**Takeuchi, Kochiyo Ikura**, 97, Monterey, Jan. 29; Yokohama-born, Gold Star Mother, survived by s Robert (Yorba Linda), d Louise Takeuchi (Emeryville), Alice Kamoku, Lily Lee Kageyama (both Monterey), 10gc, 6ggc.

**Takeuchi, Yuwako**, Denver, Jan. 31 (funeral); onetime owner-operator with late husband Kichinosuke of Kobun-sha, survived by sis Takako Tate (Jpn).

**Tani, Hatsumi**, 73, Chicago, Feb. 11; Tacoma-born, survived by s Richard, James (Los Angeles), d Joyce.

**Tomita, Haruno**, 92, Berkeley, Feb. 4; survived by s Kenji (San Rafael), d Mariko Kobayashi (St. Louis).

**Ujihara, Akio**, 91, West Los Angeles, Feb. 19; Kochi-born, survived by w Hazel, br George, sis Mari Kiino, Jane Tashiro.

**Uyemura, Takashi "Tuck"**, 67, Northridge, Feb. 27; Los Angeles-born WWII veteran, survived by w Margaret, d Nancy Lynne, s Todd, Rick, br Paul, Ben, sis Lil Yano, in-law br Tom and Ed Sato, sis Mary Sato, Grace Misumi.

**Wada, Ben Tsuneo**, 92, Fountain Valley, Feb. 9; Wakayama-born, survived by s George, James, Takeo, Ken, Tyom, d Yoneko Whittaker, 15gc, 3ggc, br Toyozo and Yutaka (both Jpn).

**Yakata, John**, 67, New York, Jan. 17 of heart attack; Vacaville-born photographer, advertising art director, survived by w Helen, s Larry, Brian, 2gc.

**Yamada, Jinyei**, 89, Los Angeles, Feb. 22; Shiga-born naturalized U.S. citizen, survived by w Shizue, d Miyoko Oshima, s Takeshi, Norio (Sacramento), George, Shizuo, 14gc, 3ggc.

**Yamaguchi, Robert A.**, 61, Los Angeles, Feb. 16; Woodland-born Korean Conflict veteran, survived by w Irene, m Fumino, br Fumio, Noboru, Fumihiko.

**Yamamoto, Masao "Gabby"**, 73, Los Angeles, Feb. 17; Wash. State-born WWII veteran, survived by w Sachiko [Mitsusa Bando], d Karen Kimura, 2gc, br Masaru (Jpn).

**Yamamoto, Richard**, 65, Santa Cruz, Feb. 7; Watsonville-born, survived by w Ruth, s Craig, Ritchie, 2gc, br Robert, Shuichi, sis Mina Tanaka, Fumi Kobayashi, Yoshi Hashimoto, Kikue Mine, Tami Matsui, Kiyo Arao.

**Yamamoto, Sueka**, 82, San Jose, Feb. 18; Shimane-born, survived by h Kenzo, s Hiroshi, d Mary Sakamoto, Ann Okamoto, 7gc, 1ggc, br Tokugoro Murata (Jpn), sis Kinue Kodama (Jpn).

**Yamanashi, Tomisaburo**, 61, Los Angeles, Feb. 10; Denver-born Korean Conflict veteran, survived by 2 br and 3 sis.

**Yoshida, Chieko**, 83, Los Angeles, Jan. 16; Fukui-born, survived by s Kuniaki (Jpn), d Kaori Sakai, 3gc.

**Yoshida, Tadashi**, 79, Chicago, Feb. 2; survived by w Aiko, s James, Ichiro Shihoten (New York).

**Yoshimi, Mitsuhiro**, 87, Los Angeles, Feb. 22; Kagoshima-born, survived by w Ayako, s Allen, Ted, Dennis, d Frances, in-law sis Ino Yoshimi.

**Yoshimura, Tsuruko**, 81, Gardena, Jan. 22; Hawaii-born, survived by s George, 2gc, 2ggc, br Ken Nozaki.

**Rev. Yuge, Mitsuru**, 57, Los Angeles, Feb. 14; Los Angeles-born Korean Conflict veteran, chief translator at Tenrikyo Mission Headquarters, shakuhachi/gagaku lecturer-performer, survived by w Ikuko, d Yumi, s Robert, Michael, Sean, m Hamae, sis Chitose Kobayashi (Jpn).

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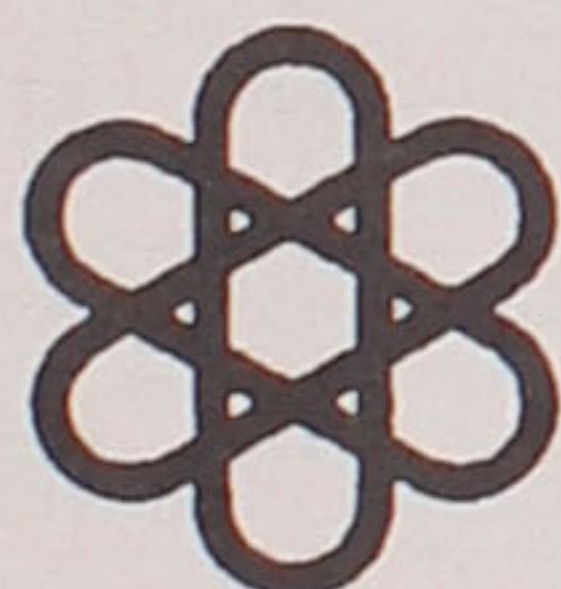
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