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Friday, April 5, 1991

Nikkei to sue college for termination

LOS ANGELES-A fund-raising effort is underway to assist G. Akito Maehara in his lawsuit against his former employer, Cal Poly Pomona College.

Maehara, 37, intends to file a suit that claims wrongful termination, racial discrimination and violation of first amendment rights.

On Saturday, March 30, Maehara received \$1,000 from the Asian Pacific Legal Defense Education Fund, \$500 from the Pacific Southwest District of JACL, and \$500 from the National Coalition for Redress and Reparation.

Maehara, formerly coordinator of outreach and recruitment for the college, was terminated in July 26, 1990 after months of what he termed harassment and pressure to resign.

It began in October of 1988 when Maehara investigated minority student complaints of harassment by campus police.

"Minority students with alarms in their cars were being arrested," Maehara said. "In one case, a black student was stopped and had guns drawn on him. He was interrogated. It turned out the car was his own. The student was Tony Bourne, president of the Black Student Union, an outstanding student.

"John Polite, another black student, was driving home when police pulled him over and frisked him. They thought he was stealing his own car.

"Bobby Langandoan, a Filipino student, comes from a poor background so he never dressed fashionably. One day, he was carrying his own in-dash car radio and police arrested him. They strip-searched him and found a switchblade. Bobby said he was afraid

See LAWSUIT/page 5

Bill asks for study of minority business policy

SACRAMENTO—Legislation has been reintroduced in the California Legislature calling for a study of the state's contracting with minority and women businesses.

Senate Bill 718, introduced by Senate President pro Tempore David Roberti (D-Hollywood/Burbank) is a response to a complaint by a number of minority and women business owners and organizations that the state has not adequately monitored its own efforts to increase contracting with these groups.

According to Roberti, the state's goal is to conduct 15 percent of its private enterprise contracting with minorities and 5 percent with women business enterprises. .

Pacific Citizen contacted the Department of General Services, Office of Small and Minority Businesses to obtain specific figures on minority contracts. According to John Nosler, assistant administrator, the state contracted for \$14,905,000 with Asian Pacific males from July 1, 1989 to June 30, 1990, and \$835,000 with Asian Pacific women for the same period. The total of Asian Pacific contracts, \$15,740,000, is about 9 percent of the total \$171,445,000 in minority contracts. And the total minority contracts amount to about 3.9 percent of the state's total purchases of \$4,377,140,000.

While programs exists to assist businesses, there is no provision for an entity expressly charged with reviewing programs and policies concerning businesses owned by minorities and women, according to Roberti. His bill would request the University of California to conduct a comprehensive study on such businesses which addressed specified areas of concerns.

Last year, an identical measure was introduced but vetoed by then Gov. George Deukmejian.

"Thus we need this bill to learn the facts and to protect the program so vital to aspiring minority and women entrepreneurs who would be assisted greatly by the opportunity to do business with their state government," Roberti said. PC

Discrimination opposed in college admissions

WASHINGTON, D.C.—A resolution opposing discrimination against Asian Americans in college admissions has been reintroduced by Congressman Dana Rohrabacher (R-Calif.) and 35 members of the House. The list includes Rep. Hamilton Fish (R-N.Y.), the House Judiciary Committee's ranking Republican.

Rohrabacher said he wants to draw newly installed Secretary of Education Lamar Alexander's attention to longstanding investigations into admissions policies at UCLA and the University of California at Berkeley.

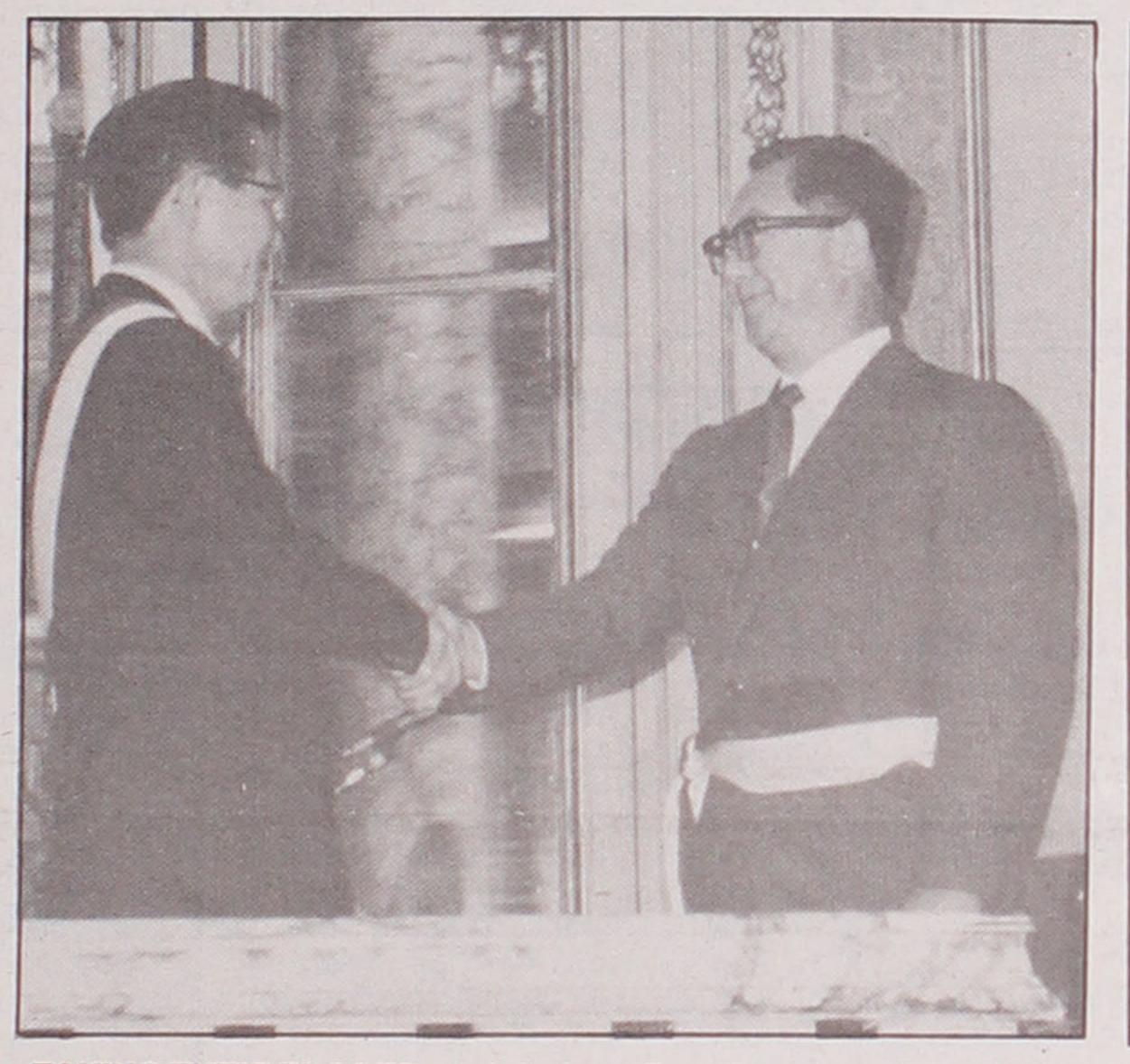
"Last year's finding of discrimination

against five Asian-Americans by UCLA's graduate mathematics program makes it essential that the pending cases, some three years old, be brought to a conclusion," Rohrabacher said. "Justice delayed is justice denied. I agree with Former Education Secretary Lauro Cavazos that 'one program of discrimination is one too many.' Congress has given the Office of Civil Rights the money to finish the job and we expect them to

The resolution calls on the Justice and Education Departments to vigorously enforce the civil rights laws with respect to college admissions.

Rohrabacher has also written Secretary Alexander, expressing his concern over Alexander's planned "review" of its policy to pursue complaints.

Along with Fish, the original cosponsors of the resolution include four other Judiciary Committee members-Representatives Henry Hyde, ranking Republican on the Civil Rights Subcommittee, F. James Sensenbrenner (R-Wis.). ranking Republican on the Crime and Criminal Justice Subcommittee, Carlos Moorhead (R-Calif.), who serves as ranking member of the Judicial Administration Subcommittee, and ranking member Bill McCollum (R-Fla.) of the Immigration Subcommittee. (PC)





TAKING THEIR PLACES—In left photo, Peru President Alberto Fujimori welcomes Dr. Viotor Yamamoto as minister of health. In right photo are Victor Aritomi, new ambassador of Peru to Tokyo, and his wife Rosa Fujimori Aritomi.

Peru's Fujimori names Nikkei officials

Compiled by Harry Honda from the Spanish-language section of Peru Shimpo, edited by Ricardo Mitsuya Higa]

In Lima, March was a socially-rich and memorable month in the Peruvian Japanese community as President Alberto Fujimori swore in his second Nikkei cabinet member, Dr. Victor Yamamoto Miyagawa, as minister of health on March 18, and the collective Nikkei community honored Victor Aritomi Shinto, the new Peruvian ambassador to Japan, and his wife, Rosa Fujimori, the younger sister of the president, on March 14.

Ambassador Aritomi, whose appointment was ratified by the senate Feb. 7, comes from a background as a reporter during his college days at the National University of San Marcos to public relations and international marketing director for Matsushita/ Panasonic of Peru. With tri-lingual ability, he has participated in conferences and seminars in North and South America. Born in Huancayo in 1936, the son of Hachiro and Kikuko Aritomi, both of Yamaguchi-ken, the Victor Aritomis have four children: Victor Andres 21, an economics major at the University of the Pacific; Yayoi, 18; Claudio and Gledy.

Nikkei Woman Heads Customs

On March 12, Carmen Higaona de Guerra, after a career in higher education, became the first Nisei woman to head the Superintendencia National de Aduanas (National Customs) as president. She was previously the con-

troller general for the agency. [Coincidentally, another Nisei woman ranking high in the customs service is in the U.S.: Mieko Kosobayashi, one-time Washington JACL office secretary during the Mike Masaoka years.]

At the department (state) level Fernando Furukawa Kinumatsu was sworn in as assessor in the ministry of education. He is board president of the vocational center in Huampani, a community outside Lima.

First Nikkei in Cabinet

Earlier this year in a cabinet shakeup, President Fujimori had named his first Nikkei cabinet member, Jaime Yoshiyama, as minister of transportation and communications. In his "barebone budget analysis" announced

See PERU/page 6

Japan still has investment eyes on U.S.

LOS ANGELES—Attracted by a belief in America's long-term economic strength, Japanese investors poured \$13.06 billion into U.S. real estate last year, according to a study released March 27 by the national accounting firm of Kenneth Leventhal & Company.

The figure, however, is actually 12 percent less than the \$14.77 billion invested in 1989, but the accounting firm believes it is still impressive in light of the recession in this country, the Persian Gulf War, the doubling of Japanese interest rates and its government's re-

strictions on U.S. investing. needed shot in the arm for U.S. real estate given the current lack of credit available from domestic banks and savings and loans," said Jack Rodman, director of the firm's Pacific Rim practice. Cumulative Japanese investment in U.S. real estate amounts to \$70.72 billion through 1990.

"The purchase of land for development showed the biggest percentage gain of the total invested last year, evidence that the Japanese have confidence in the long-term strength of our real estate markets," Rodman said.

Hotel and resorts continue to attract more investor dollars because of the growing Japanese tourism market, the report said. "The strong demand for "This level of investment is a much- destination resorts—especially those offering skiing or golf-will continue to attract more interest in this end of the real estate spectrum, "said Jack Barthell,

partner in the firm's Los Angeles office.

Investment in office properties dropped to 17 percent of the total from a high of 50 percent in 1988, a result of overbuilt U.S. markets and the Japanese government's discouragement of acquiring highly visible trophy proper-

The percentage invested in mixed-use and residential properties remained unchanged from last year, while golf courses continued their upward trend. Retail, industrial and other investments each represented less than five percent of the total for 1990.

Investment in residential properties will show the greatest growth this year with California continuing to attract the most attention, Barthell said. PC

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Letters

More clarification on Chin murder case

Mr. James Shimoura in his letter of March 15, 1991, may have thought that I was trying to lessen the significance of Vincent Chin's murder when I wrote that Ronald Ebens, the murderer, was employed and that he knew Chin was Chinese, but he missed my point. I was trying to emphasize that it was not a trade issue and to state pertinent facts that I thought were relevant to the crime. Most Nikkei I know keep repeating that it was a case of an unemployed auto worker who was angry at Japan's trade policies.

While I do nitpick at times, and I admit I get my information from second hand sources (the Detroit News, the Los Angeles Times, the New York Times, Time and Cable News Network were the sources of my information on the Chin case), I am concerned and well aware of hate crimes against and harassment of Asians. In fact, I try to dig deeper into these crimes by going to the libraries and seeking the newspapers of the area in which the crimes occurred in order to get all the facts and to learn what were the motivating factors and what triggered the crime.

In all the issues of harassment and crimes against Asians I've researched, I have found that trade with Japan was not the motivating

factor; the bottom line is that racism was the primary factor. In some instances, a heated argument with Japan. To put the matter in preceded the crime, so it's hard to historical perspective, the Chinese, say for sure that it was racially who were the first Asian immimotivated; on some occasions, it grants to this country, suffered appears that the Asian was in the massacres, assaults and expulwrong place at the wrong time, so sions from their communities, but the victim could have been of any not because of trade problems with

I'm not saying that trade issues with Japan can't result in a hate crime. An unstable person could were victimized because of their commit a crime for that reason, race. but the weight of evidence is that hatred of Asians was the reason in all the ones I researched—the attack on East Indians in New Jersey by a group called "Dotbusters," the stabbing to death of a Vietnamese student of Chinese descent by another student in Davis, the torching of an apartment that was filled with Cambodians in Massachusetts, the assault and killing of a Chinese man outside a pool hall in North Carolina, the shooting of Vietnamese fishermen by the Ku Klux Klan over a turf dispute in the Texas Gulf-and that racism and not trade with Japan was the

The JACL has embarked on a campaign to tackle the problem of the trade issue, believing, perhaps, that this is the primary reason for hate crimes against Asians. Some JACLers must think that if trade problems with Japan were smoothed over, most hate crimes against Asians would cease. I can assure you that even if trade friction with Japan were lessened, crimes against Asians will still continue.

Racism against Asians is an old story that predates trade problems Japan or China or anything else that happened in the old countries, but because of who they were. They

I don't have a ready answer to the problem of racism and hate crimes, but I wonder if teaching elementary school students to understand people of different races, religions and cultures and to give dignity and respect to all people might not help. By the time they reach high school or college might be too late. Whatever needs to be done, I am a little bit pessimistic that with the explosive growth of the Asian population, by the same token we'll be hearing more about racially motivated crimes against Asians.

Ed Suguro Seattle, Wash.

Couple looking for Hisako Kanami

Whereabouts of Hisako Kanami who lived with Dr. and Mrs. C.M. Hunter in Detroit, Michigan, during 1942-43 (is) sought.

Contact the Hunters, 705 17th Avenue South, Fargo, N.D. 58103; 701/293-1889.



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checks. Come into any Sumitomo office for more information or to open a Fifty Plus Account.



Calendar

Arizona

Monday, April 8-"Roots of Japanese Character: Pre-school Education in Japan," Dr. Joseph Tobin, professor, University of Hawaii, 2-4 p.m., Tempe Public School District Offices Board Room, 3205 S. Rural Rd., Tempe, AZ 85282. \$8/ members of Japan-America Society of Phoenix; \$10,/non-members. Information: Penny Levy, 602/893-0599.

Seattle

Through Sunday, June 30-Wing Luke Asian Museum, History of Sagamiya Confectionery, 4077th Ave. S. \$2.50, adults; \$1, students, seniors. Information: 206/623-5124.

California

Bay Area

Saturday, April 6—Jazz at Lake Park, Berkeley Chapter, JACL, 8 p.m., Lake Park United Methodist Church, 281 Santa Clara Ave., Oakland, \$7 donation.

Saturday, 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. Information: Natsuko Irei, 415/237-8730 between 7-10 a.m. or after 10 p.m.

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

For the record

In the recounting of Asian Ameri in the California State Legislature in the March 8 issue of PC, Chinese American Republican Tom Hom was inadvertently left out. He served one term, from 1968-1970.

Under cover



These young dancers will be part of the 24th annual Cherry Blossom Festival in San Francisco Japantown April 12-14 and 19-21. Featured will be exhibits, demonstrations and a variety of cultural performances, including sumo wrestling, martial arts, folk dances, ikebana, and a food bazaar. Most events are free. Information: 415/ 563-2313.

Wednesday, April 10-1:30 p.m. plaque dedication to Katherine Maurer, Methodist deaconess who served Japanese and Chinese immigrants at the prewar immigration station on Angel Island, ceremony on Angel Island (ferries from Tiburon, 10 a.m.).

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

Saturday, April 13—Tomodachi, University of California, Berkeley Japanese and Japanese-American Cultural Club, "Momotaro, The Peach Boy," cultural night, photo exhibit, demonstrations, displays. 6:30 p.m., International House House, 2299 Piedmont Ave., Berkeley. Free. Information: Diane Nakagawa, 415/649-1736.

Saturday, April 13—Community Family Potluck, 5-8 p.m., San Mateo Buddhist Church, Social Hall, 2 South Claremont St., San Mateo. Information: JACL Community Center, 415/343-2793.

San Jose

Saturday, April 6-Annual bridge tournament, San Jose, JACL, 7 p.m., Wesley Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 566 North 5th St. \$5 per person. Prizes in non-life master and intermediate categories. Information: Aiko Nakahara, 408/ 258-7874.

Friday, April 12—Asian Law Alliance's 14th Anniversary Spring Event, San Jose Fairmont Hotel, 70 S. Market St., 6 p.m. Entertainment. Speaker: L.A. Councilman Michael Woo. Information: 408/287-9710.

Sunday, April 14—Yu-Ai Kai 12th annual benefit luncheon and fashion show, Red Lion Inn, San Jose. Tickets (\$35): Yu-Ai Kai office, 565 N. 5th St., San Jose 95112. Information: 408/294-2505.

Los Angeles area

Saturday, Sunday, April 6-7-Hanamatsuri, celebration of the birth of Buddha, Orange County Buddhist Church, 909 S. Dale St., Anaheim, Calif. Special services, cultural exhibits, stage demonstrations, carnival. 3-9 p.m., Saturday; 3-8 p.m., Sunday. Information: 714/527-9186.

See CALENDAR/page 3

JACL

Cleveland

The chapter celebrated its 45th anniversary on March 2 with special guest Bill Yoshino, JACL national director, who spoke on "The JACL—Present and Future."

Yoshino focused on major programs as well as the Legacy Fund drive, and talked about the organization's position on the FBI treatment of Arab Americans.

Special guests included Mr. and Mrs. Bishara Costandi from the Palestine Relief Foundation, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Plotkin from the American Jewish Committee, Christine Lucas, assistant director of the Cleveland Council on World Affairs, and her husband Dan.

Others present were Asian community representatives Dave and Fran Namkoong, August Pust, the governor's special assistant for Multicultural Affairs, and his wife Gloria.

Honored for their longstanding service to the chapter were Peggy Tanji and Mary Sadataki.

Chapter board of directors were installed by Hank Tanaka, MDC governor. They are: Joyce Asamoto, Sandi Hoover, Shig Kanai, Ruby Nakao, Tom Nakao Jr., Sets Nakashige, Gary Ochi, Harry Taketa, Bob Takiguchi, Hank Tanaka, Peggy Tanji, Gary Yano and Kathy Akiya-Vaughn.

Puyallup Valley

At a recent chapter meeting, Scott Higashi explained to members a program to commemorate

CALENDAR

(Continued from page 3)

Sunday, April 7—Japanese tea ceremony, Ura Senke School, by Mme. Soko Ewamoto, New Otani Hotel & Garden, 2-3 p.m., hotel lobby lounge, 120 S. Los Angeles St., L.A. Information: Yoko Sugi, 213/253-9295.

Sunday, April 7-Visions for Keiro benefit dinner/dance, Hyatt Regency, L.A. School board member Warren Furutani, special guest, Music Co., entertainment. Information: Margaret Endo, 213/263-5693.

Monday, April 8—Karate class, Bernd Weiss, Ph.D., sixth degree black belt, and Hilda Weiss, black belt crime prevention specialist with L.A. P.D., UCLA Extension class, Topanga-Valley Karate School, 21512 Sherman Way, Canoga Park, Mondays through June 17, 7-9 p.m. \$120. Information: 213/825-7093.

Monday, April 8-8th annual Japanese American Cultural & Community Center Ambassadors Cup U.S.-Japan Friendship Golf Tournament, Friendly Hills Country Club, Whittier, shotgun teeoff, 11 a.m., check-in 9 a.m. Information: Kats Kunitsugu, 213/628-2725.

Wednesday, April 10-Sachiko Arakaki and the Miyagi Toyoko Ryukyu Dance School performing traditional Okinawan dances, 6:30 p.m., University Theatre, California State University, Dominguez Hills. Free. Campus Parking available. Information: 213/516-3559.

Sunday, April 14—Los Angeles Nikkei Widowed Group, "Medical Missionary to Haiti, "Robert H. Yonemoto, M.D. JACC Building, 244 S. San Pedro St., L.A., 1:30 p.m. Information: June Ichinose, 818/ 288-7169.

Wednesday, April 17—West L.A., JACL, Auxiliary Venice Japanese Community Center Queen's Luncheon, noon, Venice Community Center. Information: 213/821-3237.

the 50th year of the signing of E.O. 9066 that will be proposed to the University of Puget Sound in February of 1992.

Along with Bob Bullock, Higashi will continue to work on this project. The university has appropriated \$5,000 toward the proposal. Possible speakers and program ideas are being discussed.

President H. Del Tanabe will present the project at the next District Council meeting. PNWDC Governor Bob Sato will take the proposal to the National Board for possible funding. The university will also use its office of development to solicit funds from foundations and other appropriate groups.

JAR

The Japanese American Republicans held its installation dinner recently, with special guests Elaine Chao, United States deputy secretary of Transportation, and Nao Takasugi, mayor of Oxnard, Calif.

Alvin Kusumoto, president, was unable to attend. Installed were Eunice Sato, vice president of program; Linda Kawakami, vice president of membership; George Takeyasu, vice president of finance; Nori Imagawa, recording secretary; Kei Higashi, treasurer; Ruth Watanabe, corresponding secretary; Dr. John Kashiwabara, auditor; Norma Tazoi, publicity; and Elaine Takeyasu, historian. Beth Fujishige, past president, represented the new president.



RECOGNITION—Recently honored by the Florin Chapter for their civil rights efforts were (from left) Jonathan Lightman, Martha Power, Dale Minami, Willie Ellison and Robert Trigg.

Fiorin Chapter

The chapter's 9th annual Time of Remembrance was held March 9 with local deejay Tom Nakashima emceeing the evening program. This year the theme was "Constitutional Victory Against All Odds and a Challenge to Ensure Justice For

Welcoming speech was given by President Carol Hisatomi.

Robert Trigg, superintendent of Elk Grove Unified School District, accepted an award for his support Tsukamoto and Andy Noguchi. Ellison of the NAACP; Jonathan Lightman, representing the Jewish community; Martha Power of Sacramento Human Rights and Housing Commission; and Dale Minami, Nikkei civil rights attorney.

The chapter's own civil right leader, Mary Tsukamoto, said, "Tonight we acknowledged and honored the courage and perseverance of the Japanese Community and all of our friends in accomplishing the Constitu-

from Mary tional victory against all odds. Organizations such as NAACP, Jew-Also recognized were Willie ish Council, Sacramento Fair Housing Commission and Elk Grove Unified School District have been instrumental in achieving justice. We honor these special friends with honor this evening."

Minami spoke on civil rights in the '90s, particularly in the areas of hate crime surfacing throughout the country. He urged participation in fighting racism on all fronts.

More than 250 people attended the event. PC



Angelus Plaza Senior Activity Center 255 So. Hill Street Los Angeles, CA 90012 Friday, April 19, 10am-2pm

Baldwin Hills Mall Plaza 3650 Martin Luther King Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90008 Saturday, April 20, 10am-4pm

Hawthome Memorial Center 3901 El Segundo Blvd. Hawthorne, CA 90250 Friday, April 19, 9:30am-2pm

Pacific Inn 5481 W. Torrance Blvd. Torrance, CA 90503 Saturday, April 13, 10am-3pm Lakewood Center Mall 200 Lakewood Center Mall Lakewood, CA 90712 Saturday, April 13, 10am-3pm

Norwalk City Hall 12700 Norwalk Blvd. Norwalk, CA 90650 Saturday, April 20, 10am-4pm Sunday, April 21, 10am-4pm

Whittwood Mall 15603 E. Whittwood Lane Whittier, CA 90603 Saturday, April 13, 10am-4pm

Veterans Memorial Bldg. 4117 Overland Ave. Culver City, CA 90230 Friday, April 19, 10am-3pm

Cedars-Sinai Medical Center 8700 Beverly Blvd., TC-125 Los Angeles, CA 90048 Sunday, April 21, 10am-3pm

Japanese Institute of Sawtelle 2110 Corinth Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90025 Sunday, April 14, 11am-3pm

Northridge Fashion Center 9301 Tampa Ave. Northridge, CA 91324 Saturday, April 20, 10am-4pm

Glendale Galleria Central & Broadway Glendale, CA 91210 Saturday, April 20, 10am-4pm Sunday, April 21, 11am-3pm

Pasadena Senior Center 85 E. Holly St. Pasadena, CA 91103 Friday, April 12, 9am-1pm

Garfield Medical Center 525 N. Garfield Ave. Monterey Park, CA 91754 Saturday, April 20, 10am-4pm

Laguna Hills Mall 24155 Laguna Hills Mall Laguna Hills, CA 92653 Saturday, April 13, 10am-7pm

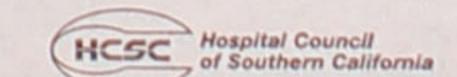
Main Place/Santa Ana 2800 N. Main St. Santa Ana, CA 92701 Saturday, April 27, 10am-7pm

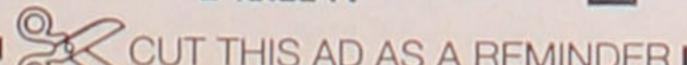
American Red Cross











PC editorial

Pat Saiki's new job: to head SBA

While the bad news has the State of California unable to live up to its committment contracting with minority and women businesses, the good news this week is the U.S. Senate confirmation of Patricia Saiki of Hawaii to head the Small Business Administration. President Bush nominated her on March 12 and the Senate unanimously confirmed her on March 21. She fills the post being vacated April 1 by Susan Engeleiter, the first woman to lead the SBA.

The former congresswoman from Hawaii has a wealth of experience as a state legislator for 14 years and a two term member of the U.S. House, where she served on a committee dealing with banking, housing and community development, economic stabilization, international development institutions, international finance, trade and monetary policy.

Business organizations of all kinds and their leaders were among those who boosted her for the SBA position. At her confirmation hearing, Saiki told the Senate she hoped to improve small business access to loans under \$50,000 among other objectives and said the rebuilding of Kuwait would provide an immediate potential market for small businesses. She also supports initiatives to promote women-owned businesses as well as socially and economically disadvantaged firms.

In California, Senate President pro Tempore David Roberti has reintroduced his bill to study why the state, committed to do 15% of its private enterprise contracting with minorities and 5% with women businesses, is stagnant at 1% according to the latest report on this effort.

The good news in Washington this week is an antidote for the bad news from Sacramento.

Pacific Citizen

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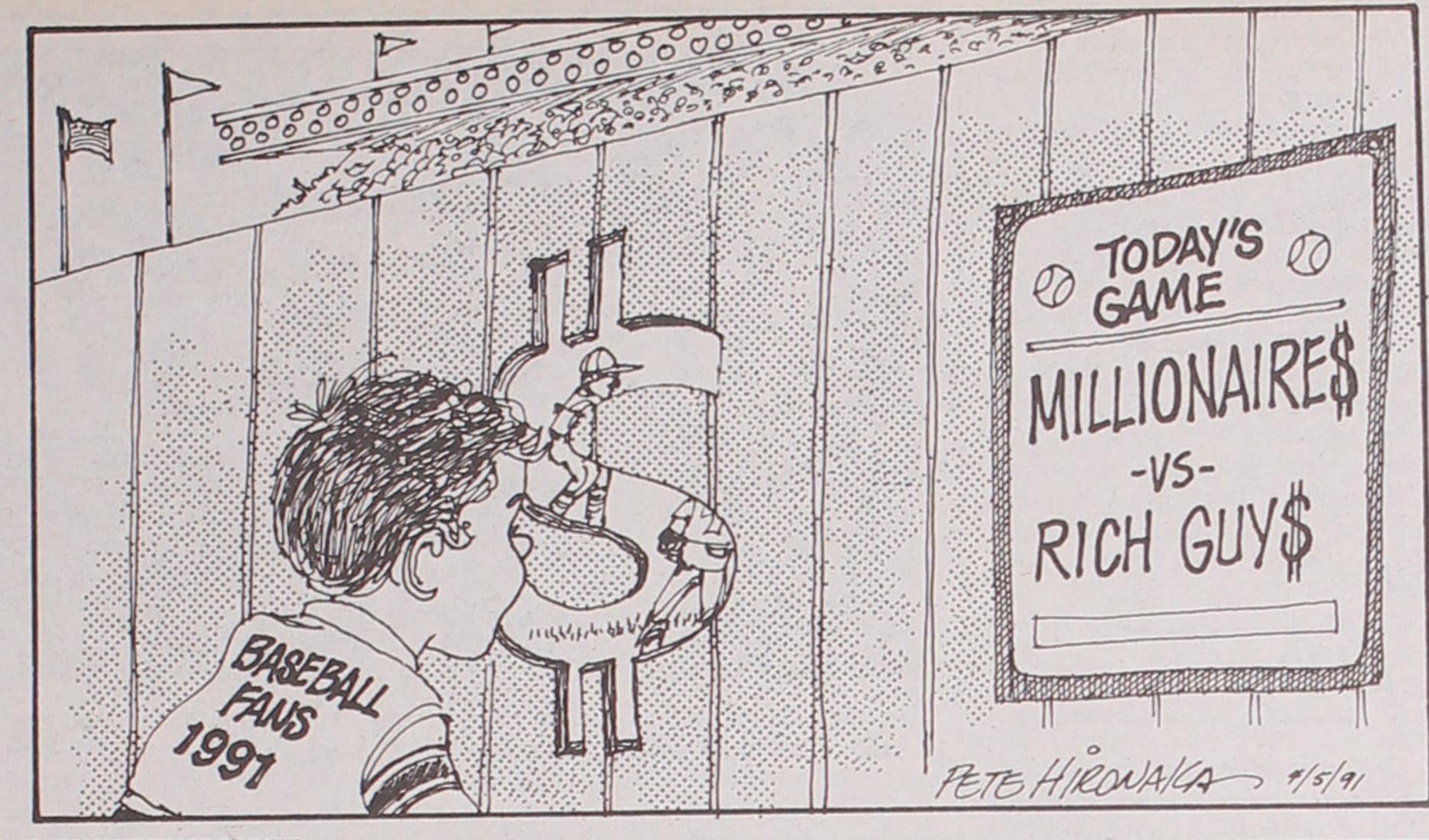
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From the frying pan

BILL HOSOKAWA

Little Tokyo's Bookstore: Amerasia

n the infrequent occasions I get to Los Angeles I try to drop by the Amerasia Bookstore. It occupies a quiet little corner of the Japanese Village Plaza in Little Tokyo. I like to browse among the books, taking note of what has been published recently in the field of Amerasiana, and buying a volume or two occasionally for my library.

The Amerasia Bookstore is a low key place. The people who work there seem to speak in muted tones when they speak at all, and don't seem to encourage conversation, at least with this stranger. That's okay. The books speak for themselves.

What brings up this subject is a story about the bookstore in the February issue of Tozai Times, a Los Angeles monthly. The publisher, Chet M. Yamauchi, has me on the mailing list. I enjoy his pithy columns, the ruminations of Wimpy Hiroto, and various other writings.

(Wimpy is a puckish observer of the human race. He struggled for years to keep his Crossroads weekly afloat. As I recall, when he finally had to announce Crossroads' final issue, he also ran a coupon inviting readers to renew their subscription.)

But I digress. The Tozai Times lead story by Brian T. Niiya told about Amerasia Bookstore's 20 year history which, many fear, is about to come to an end. For all that I know, it may have ended before this column appears, although I hope not.

Amerasia Bookstore has been described as one of the last surviving entities of the "progressive," for want of a better word, movement among young Japanese Americans in that restless period of history spanning

the late 'Sixties and early 'Seventies.

Like so much that flowered in that time, the bookstore was founded on hope and idealism with scant regard for the hard facts of economics: You have to make money in order to survive.

Niiya's story tells of the gradual change in the

moved on to other things."

There is a place for a bookstore like Amerasia, born of revolt but grown moderate in maturity. I hope it not only survives but prospers. That may be difficult, despite Amerasia's stubborn will not to go under, because so few Japanese Americans are book-buyers and book-readers. And that's a pity. PC

bookstore's focus as economic reality exerted its inexorable pressures. In its early years the store, in addition to stocking publications, sponsored such things as a macramé and bead necklace workshop.

The second period of the store's development, Niiya writes, "was marked by a growing concern for the business aspect of running the store and perhaps an accompanying decline in overt political ideology espoused by the store." A few years later "many of the key people in the store's development

Others took their place, but times were changing and it wasn't quite the same. The situation was parallel to what was happening throughout American society. (And in Japan, too. Many of the middle executives of Japanese business today, wearing dark suits and keeping hawklike watch on the bottom line, were among the hundreds of thousands of college students who took part in frenzied demonstrations against the U.S.-Japan Mutual Security Treaty in 1960.)



East Wind

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Jibiki's, Jisho's & Jiten's

TFYOU'VE PURCHASED any Japanese language Ldictionaries lately (or even not lately), you know they're expensive. Having gone through purchases of various jiten's here and there, at times impulsively, I'd like to share with you some recommended "buys" in jibiki's, jisho's and jiten's, in other words Japanese language dictionaries. One is Barron's "Talking Business in Japanese" (pp. 400-plus) at about \$7.95 available at Barnes & Noble. Basically it's a business dictionary in English-Japanese and vice-versa. It's in paperback with red cover, size about 31/2" x 7", to help you spot it in the store. It contains a couple of errors, but generally excellent. A "Best Buy."

By comparison, there's a more comprehensive, hardcover business dictionary, "Anglo-American Commercial Law Dictionary" (Eibei Shô-ji-hô Jiten) (pp. 900-plus) which gives the Japanese explanations for English terms, e.g. "Interstate Commerce Commission" or "Fair Labor Standards Act" and so on. The difficulty is that the text is in wa-bun (written in Japanese) so one needs yet another dictionary to discern the explanation. (At least I need one.) That one set me back over 200 smackers, and I feel it every time I pick up the jiten.

A POCKET DICTIONARY at the reasonable price of \$6.95 is "Webster's New World Compact Japanese Dictionary" (pp. 500-plus) in paperback, size about 21/2" x 4", published by Prentice-Hall Press. You should find it in almost any bookstore, maybe even some drugstores. It's English-Japanese and vice-versa. If you're at the beginning stage, it's a good one to have, but not for the serious student.

I have a couple of them.

AN ABSOLUTE "MUST" for any serious learner is Nelson's "The Modern Reader's Japanese-English Character Dictionary" available through Charles E. Tuttle Co., Rutland, Vt. When I first scanned the book at a San Francisco bookstore was impressed but I had not yet become hardened to the high prices of jitens; I thought its \$72 price was too high so I passed it by. Almost a year later I went back to the bookstore and - you guessed it - the price was even higher. I forgot how much higher, but whatever it was, it was worth it.

I'VE LONG WONDERED why someone hadn't come up with a dictionary that had furigana (kana reading beside the kanji) so that one need not have yet another dictionary to read a dictionary. It's frustrating enough to try search a jiten for the meaning of a Japanese term, only to find that one needs a dictionary to read a dictionary. Well, there is just such a jiten: "Kenkyusha's Furigana English-Japanese Dictionary" (furigana ei-wa jiten) (pp 980) 2,000 yen, paperback, 13 mm x 18 mm. I hadn't seen it in any bookstores either in Los Angeles or New York. I ordered mine through relatives in Japan. I recommend it highly: it's like having the fog lift.

M.I.S. FOLKS who'd like a clean copy of Rose-Innes' "Beginner's Dictionary of Chinese-Japanese Characters" (Kan-ei Ji-ten) (pp. 500-plus), paperbacked, can get one for \$9.95 through Dover Publications Inc., 31 E. 2nd St., Mineola, N.Y. 11501. It's an invaluable tool in unravelling un-See EAST WIND/page 5

Southwest spectator

by Jimmie Tokeshi

The following is testimony given by Jimmy Tokeshi, PSW regional director of JACL, before the Senate Committee on Elections and Reapportionment. Tokeshi, representing the Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans for Fair Reapportionment, urges the committee to keep Little Tokyo's integrity as a distinct political district.

I am here on behalf of the coalition of Asian Pacific Americans for Fair Reapportionment regarding the issue of resdistricting under consideration by this committee. There are over 100 political and community organizations under its umbrella.

In the United States and espe-

cially here in California, historically, it was considered undesirable to be of Asian descent. When the first immigrants from



China and Japan began to arrive in this country in the mid-1800s, Chinese and Japanese immigrants were excluded from political life by the prohibition against naturalization and were effectively barred from participation in political, economic and social affairs until 1952.

At the turn of the century, political parties, labor organizations and the press pandered to these anti-Oriental attitudes which characterized Asians as unfair labor, racially impure and a race causing injury to western civilization. Propaganda that was first turned upon the Chinese were later turned upon the Japanese. American confusion between the Chinese and Japanese, and the increasing Japanese immigration to the West Coast, often led the public to view both groups as a single racial threat.

The Japanese came to be a major focus of California politics in the fifty years before World War II. Stereotypes and fears mixed with economic self-interest were the seedbed for the politics of prejudice which bred discriminatory laws. This movement to exclude was a symbolic expression of American racism.

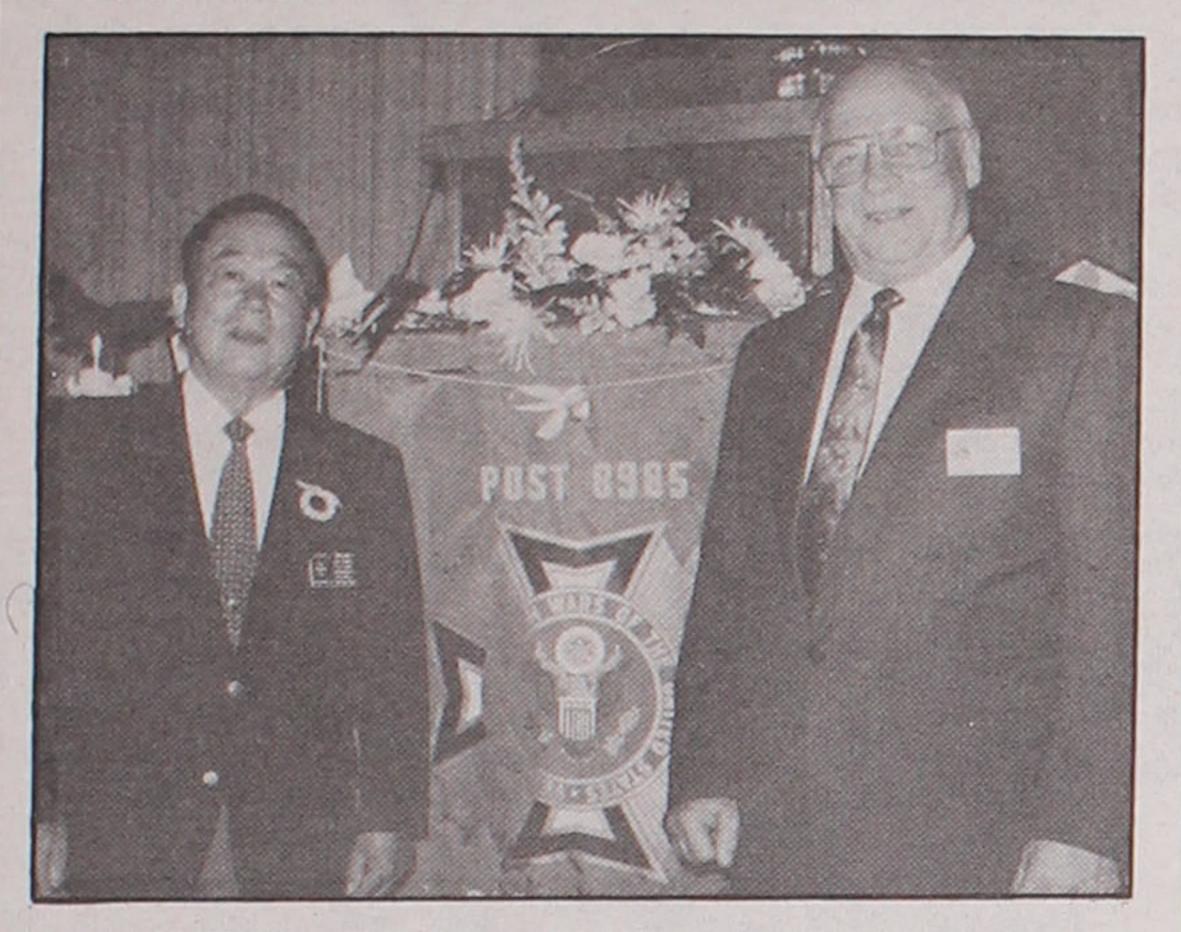
For a period of 10 years from 1923 to 1933, in virtually every session of the California Legislature, bills were proposed in both the Senate and the Assembly, targeting the Japanese American community for exclusion and deportation.

In February 1942, race prejudice, war hysteria, and failed political leadership culminated with Executive Order 9066, which caused the forced removal of Japanese Americans from the West Coast after the bombing of Pearl Harbor. As we approach the 50th anniversary this year, the racial consequences of that war still echo in hate crimes acted out against Asian Americans today. Death threats, hate mail, and racial vandalism continue to target leaders, community centers and churches in our community.

The Japanese American community after the war returned to Little Tokyo to reestablish its identity. Koyasan Buddhist Temple, still in the heart of Little Tokyo, served as a hostel for those returning to Los Angeles. It served as temporary quarters for our community as it was a difficult time of survival with limited public relief and widespread racism.

There were no jobs. Much of the community had turned to housework or become gardeners. And many today are gardeners. You come to know their years of labor when you shake their stone-like hands. Most of my generation's opportunities and most of what what we have in our community

See TOKESHI/page 5



National VFW Commander-in-chief James L. Kimery (right) poses with Casey Ninomiya, post commander, at the 41st annual VFW Nisei Reunion in Sacramento recently. As keynote speaker, Kimery noted the contributions of American military forces, in particular, the 442nd, as well as armed forces who fought in the Persian Gulf.

EAST WIND

(Continued from page 4)

known kanji characters. Its system of dissecting a kanji into radicals is ingenious. Remember the "wrappers, envelopes, left and right radicals, center, top and bottom"? Breaking them down, the kanjis do not look quite so mysterious. Every student should have one in the arsenal. There are yet other publications that are deserving of high recommendations, but we'll leave that to another time.

(Now, if I could only read nihongo.) PC

TOKESHI

(Continued from page 4)

were built and given by many those hands.

The post-war period through the '50s left the Japanese American community disenfranchised. Our community had to rebuild and organize against the practice of open discrimination and prejudice. For

our first generation parents, language barriers compounded the weight of oppression. With the black movement's demonstration of equal color and equal justice in the '60s, our community began to embrace the notion of empowerment and self-determination.

Today, we are here to tell this committee that the Asian Pacific American community of Los Angeles and of the state of California is determined to embrace the issue of empowerment and self-determination. With our history, our growing number and significant demographic representation as residents and citizens of this state, we no longer want the consequences of ignorance and racism. We want our voices to be heard.

Asian Pacific American communities continue to service their respective communities in ways that are ignored in the large society. And yet, they also serve the larger society by contributing to the multi-cultural diversity of our city and nation.

I urge the committee, in its deliberations of redistricting, to continue to keep Littlet Tokyo in one councilmanic, assembly, senate

and congressional district. I also strongly urge that the same consideration be given to Chinatown and to Koreatown that are presently divided in two or three different districts.

Respectfully, Little Tokyo, Chinatown and Koreatown must not be fragmented because much of our culture, identity and sense of history rests within those boundaries.

Thank you for your consideration. PC

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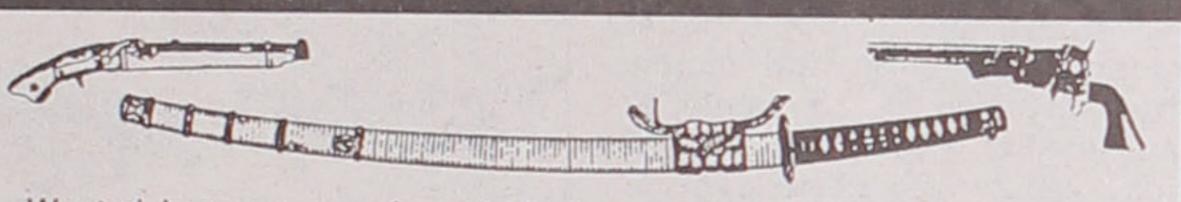


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PERU

(Continued from page 1)

this month, Yoshiyama specified modernization of the harbors, developing small businesses associated with maritime commerce, and opening up competition to international travel as top objectives.

In the same ministry, Isaac Higa Nakamura was sworn in as secretary general soon after the Fujimori inaugural. Higa, an attorney, established a credit union in Japan, "Convenio de Cooperacion Peru — Japon," last year to assist Peruvian "dekasegi"contract workers. Its office, Proyecto Japon, is located in Tokyo, 3 -1-1 Kita Shinagawa, No. 306, Shinagawa-ku; telephone: 03-3474-9345. [JACLers who attended the 1983 PANA convention in Lima, Peru, will remember him as a look-alike to Ron Wakabayashi, then national JACL director, who swapped name tags for a photo.]

Second Nikkei in Cabinet

Dr. Yamamoto was medical di-

rector of the Peruvian Japanese hospital (Policlinico Jesus Maria) in the Lima suburb that once served as a horse racing grounds. Regarded as one of the bestequipped and staffed hospitals in the country, it has a staff of more than 50 doctors in 24 departments housed in a four-story building today and celebrated its 10th anniversary on March 21. Preventive medicine would be its primary objective in working with the Nikkei community, the founders said 10 years ago when it was established in a single-story clinic during the commemoration of the 80th anniversary of Japanese immigration to Peru.

Aware of the cholera outbreak, Yamamoto said combating the disease was his top priority. A native son of Lima, he is the son of Noboru Yamamoto (Kochi) and Kiyoko Miyagawa (Kobe). He graduated from the National University of San Marcos, also the prestigious college in Peru where many other Nisei professionals have attended, from Facultad de San Fernando in medicine, postgraduate residency in gastroenterology in Japan and administrative courses at the School of Public Health in Lima.

Cholera Outbreak

Peru Shimpo indicated there were no Japanese in Peru affected by cholera among 11,000 afflicted and 77 deaths as of Feb. 17. Japan also has made several massive donations of supplies and funds to stem the epidemic, recalling its own outbreak in the 1970s in Wakayama.

On March 13, it was reported Japan included \$5 million for installing a water purification system at La Chira as part of the \$50 million public health aid to give potable water in the Pampas de San Bartolo in the Lima countryside. Another \$27 million in economic aid from Japan was announced by Japanese Ambassador Masaki Seo on March 11. Japan's Liberal Democratic Party said it was donating 556 used wagons for rural communities. Mitsubishi plans to donate 20 locomotives to

Peruvian National Railways.

PANA-USA Donation

PANA-USA has donated \$60,000 along with another \$60,000 from the Nikkei Crusade of Social Solidarity promoted by the Japanese Peruvian Association (APJ), headed by Augusto Ikemiyashiro, to President Fujimori. President Fujimori has thanked both groups for the \$120,000 donation. The presentation was in radio and TV news on March 26.

The Nikkei Crusade was a twoweek bazaar (Feb. 20-March 8) at the Japanese Cultural Center in the Jesus Maria section of Lima, where the old clothes shipped by PANA-USA last fall were sold to raise funds As a footnote, a Seiko watch, a woman's brooch and a necklace were found by the Fujinkai members sorting and pricing the old clothes and returned to PANA-USA through Martha Tamashiro, who was on a business trip in Brazil, Paraguay and Peru. PC



COLLECTORS—Old clothing items gathered by PANA-USA last fall are selected and priced by Peruvian Fujinkai members for the charity bazaar in Lima that raised more than \$60,000 for the needy in Peru.

PANA convention schedule announced

U.S. Nikkei planning to attend the next PANA Convention in Paraguay July 24-28, 1991, were informed of the preparations and schedules from Martha Tamashiro, co-founder of the Latin American JACL and Pan-American Nikkei Association-USA, who returned March 21 to Los Angeles after a two-week business trip in South America. Noritoshi Kanai, president, PANA-USA, heads the American delegation.

As a land-locked nation, about 7,000 Japanese live in Paraguay today, according to Tamashiro. Postwar arrivals from Japan are farming in the Encarnacion area by the Rio Parana. The PANA convention is expected to serve as the first major undertaking by the Paraguayan Nikkei.

Convention program opens Wednesday, July 24, with registration at the convention headquarters in Hotel Excelsior, Asuncion.

The next day will be a full day at the Paraguayan Japanese Centerrecently completed and financed by the Japanese government as a gift to the country "for development of human resources"-with opening ceremonies at 10 a.m., lunch, and keynote addresses on the convention theme, "Nikkei participation in Pan-American societies." Thursday ends with a reception at the Japanese Embassy.

Four Workshop Themes

On Friday, July 26, workshops on four topics of general concern to Latin American Nikkei are scheduled with Nikkei experts discussing several aspects of:

(a) Nikkei in Pan-American economy: agri-business entrepreneurial aspects and commerce;

(b) The Dekasegi: Nikkei workers in Japan from Brazil, Argentina, Peru, Paraguay and Latin America;

(c) Nikkei Society: education, family life, communications and role of women;

(d) Youth Forum on Nikkei Leadership: experiences and proposals from Argentina, Peru, Brazil and Paraguay.

The panels meet separately; the first two in the morning from 9 to

12, the last two from 2 to 5 p.m. PANA delegates then meet at 5 pm. at Hotel Excelsior. For others, the evening is free. (Travel writers note no trip to Paraguay is complete without eating at one of the parriuadas in the suburbs where Paraguayan beef is roasted and served in the open air.)

Sayonara Banquet and Optionals

Beside the Sayonara banquet Saturday at 8 p.m. at the Yacht y Golf Club, the day is open for the optionals:

(a) Golf tournament at Yacht

and Golf Club.

(b) A morning two-hour city tour and shopping.

(c) All-day (7 hours) Golden Cir-

cuit tour, billed as "the most recommended tour to know the people, customs and old cities of Paraguay," a 200-km. round trip visiting Spanish colonial towns including the lake community of San Bernardino lunch stop.

Registration Packet

PANA registration (US\$200 for U.S., Canada and Japan participants each if submitted before April 30, US \$250 thereafter) includes admission to the 10th PANA Nikkei karaoke show at 3 p m. Sunday. Youth registration is US \$70 before April 30, US \$100 thereafter.

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nese Embassy, Sayonara banquet, opening ceremony and panels, transportation to the events, simultaneous translation, convention booklet, coffee breaks, special youth program and admission ticket to the Sunday karaoke con-

Several tours are being offered. For all travel information as well as convention registration, PANAappointed agents are assisting U.S. participants. They are: Martha Tamashiro (Tama Travel 213/622-4333, fax 623-4271); Hiromichi Nagagaki (M.O. Air, 800/331-5413, 213/621-0429, fax 625-3321); and Ernest Hida (American Holiday, 213/849-1833, 818/846-2402, fax 213/625-4347).

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LAWSUIT

(Continued from page 1)

and carried the knife for self-de-fense. The police realized the radio was his own.

"We don't defend him for carrying the switchblade but white students aren't stopped for carrying radios," Maehara told Pacific Citizen.

Maehara says he had been hired in part as coordinator of outreach and recruitment to organize Asian, black and Chicano students on campus.

He says that after trying to assist minority students efforts to use the grievance system of the college—and participating in a April, 1990, campus protest, he began to receive personnel memoranda from college officials. One accused him of failure to meet the responsibilities of his job. Maehara asked for clarification of the charge and no official responded. Another official accused Maehara of "bad grammar and punctuation in written communication."

"I was being singled out," Maehara said. "They were citing me for draft copies of memos, not a final copy. Rough drafts of memos of other directors all contained grammatical errors, typos, spelling errors."

Maehara said he was then reprimanded for teaching a class on ethnic and women's studies without permission when, in fact, he had been asked to by the department chair of Ethic and Women's Studies.

By July of 1990, an official told Maehara the college could terminate him immediately but would be willing to negotiate his resignation.

According to Maehara, the college would provide him with neutral references to find a new job providing he resigned by October, 1990; transfer him from his current department and job to Student Services under another administrator; rescind any performance evaluation written against him and all future evaluation would be conducted by a new administrator. Maehara agreed to these conditions but the college also asked him to drop his legal and grievance rights.

He refused the last two condition and was terminated July 26, 1990. Maehara filed an appeal through the college process. It was denied.

Pacific Citizen contacted a spokesman for the college to get its side of the story. According to Norm Schneider, director of news and publications, "The action taken against Aki was for personnel performance reasons and because of that the extent to which we can comment is restricted. But we feel strongly that we were correct and followed accepted guidelines for termination.

"You can draw your own conclusions from his file. But the only way is if he will allow that. No permission has been granted. He has refused to do that. We are perfectly willing to have people see his file.

'We are prohibited by both state and federal law from discussing that which relates to an individual's performance or to personnel action taken with respect to that individual," Schneider said.

"We'd like to have that prohibition lifted, but only Maehara can do that. We've gone out publicly that this has nothing to do with racism or student protests."

Responding to Schneider's comment, Maehara said, "It's not true. I distributed my file to the State Legislature, the staff of Sen. Roberti, Speaker Brown, Congressman Roybal and Assemblywoman Teresa Hughes. They (the college) said that after I had already given it to those people. All of them wrote letters of inquiry to Hugh La Bounty, president of the college. They agreed with me that the actions taken against me were suspect.'

Maehara said he will file his lawsuit by June 30 of this year. He said he will need \$30-\$50,000 for legal fees. PC

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Obituaries

Abrams, Patricia Hishiki, Los Angeles, Feb. 19; Wyoming-born, survived by h Dr Marc, p Hiroshi/Bessie Hishiki.

Dr. Arata, Nobby, 66, Los Angeles, Jan. 27; Stockton-born, survived by w Grace, Warren, d Elaine, br Frank, Henry (both Stockton), sis Sachi Ishida (Lodi), Kazumi Nishioka (Stockton).

Ariyoshi, Kiyoko, 90, Los Angeles, Jan. 23; Fukui-born, survived by d Susie Usui, Ayako Mochizuki (Salt Lake City), 6gc, 9ggc, br Takayuki Yamamoto (Jpn).

Asano, Sakae Mary, 86, Monrovia, Calif. Mar. 6; Okayama-born San Gabriel Valley pioneer, survived by s Tosh, Minoru, 4gc.

Kawahata, Isamu, 80, Sanger, Mar. 12; Newcastle-born, survived by w Hatsue, s Don, Eugene, d Nancy, 6gc, br Masamitsu, in-law br Shunzo Takemoto, Masao Takemoto, Yukio Takemoto, Takumi Okada, Shigenori

Kawakami, Noye, 92, Denver, Mar. 5 (fun-eral); Okayama-born Colorado Issei pioneer woman, oldest surviving member of old Calif. St. Japanese Methodist Church, survived by

See OBITUARIES/Page 8

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OBITUARIES

(Continued from page 7)

d Ruth Shinto, Kay, Grace Ito (Colorado Springs), Unis Kinoshita (Albuquerque).

Kobayashi, Sadao, 74, Alhambra, Mar. 19; San Gabriel-born, survived by w Bernice, br Isamu, sis Toshie Suzuki (Cape Girardeau, Mo.), Sumi (Petaluma).

Kuruma, Steven, 46, Laguna Hills, Mar. 23; Amache-born Vietnam War veteran, survived by w Toshiko, d Kikuko, br Harry T. and Richard N., in-laws p Tom / Masayo Ishida.

Kuzuhara, Daniel, 67, Long Grove, Ill., Mar. 19; Calif.-born, asst. prof. of psychology, Northeastern Illinois College (1964-1991), board pres, Japanese American Service Committee (1960s), founder-director for 17 years, Hope Center, survived by w Toyoko, d Gail, s Bryan, Loren, 4br, 3sis.

Nakaima, Masao, 73, West Covina, Mar. 22; Hawaii-born, survived by w Irene, s Paul, Ronald, Alan, d Jane Altamirano, Shirley Miyashiro, 20 gc.

Nakaji, Tom, 88, San Jose, Feb. 28; Watsonville-born farmer in prewar Morro Bay, grower-gardener in postwar San Jose, redress activist with West Valley JACL and Nihonmachi Outreach, survived by w Shima, d Irene, Judy Fong (Albany), Janet Nielsen (Santa Clara), Lorice Quong (Idaho), s Harold, Ernest, gc and ggc, sis in Jpn.

Nakawatase, John M, 86, Stockton, Mar. 15; Kagoshima-born, survived by s Wayne, d Joan Matsune, Sayo Lambert, Kimi Oliveira, gcn, br Katsuo.

Niino, George S, 69, Madera, Mar. 19; Fresno-born, survived by w Sachiko, s Ronald, David, d Lorraine Takasaki, 6gc, m Shi-

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zue, br Yukio, Jackson, sis Mineko Fukushima, Fusako Fukushima, Michiko Nakamichi.

Nitahara, Sam, 69, Chicago, Feb. 25; survived by w Fusako, s James, Steven, Keith, Ken, 4gc, br Jim, Bob, sis Mary Munemoto, Lily Nakawatase.

Nonaka, Masaiki, 85, San Francisco, Mar.

11; San Francisco-born, survived by w Hideko, s Masahide, d Hisa Suzuki, br Masasue,
5gc, 4ggc.

Oki, Shiro J, 67, Los Angeles, Mar. 10; Newcastle-born, survived by w Betty, s Jack, Ron, d Janet Rendon, 1gc, br Paul (Yuba City), Saburo, sis Toyoko Oki, Sally Tanaka, in-law br Masato Tateishi.

Okumura, Joe, 76, San Lorenzo, Mar. 16; Napa-born, survived by br Ken, Sakuzo, sis Asae Okai.

Wada, Michiko, 53, Gardena, Mar. 16; Osaka-born, survived by m Kazuko, sis Yoshiko Shimasaki, gm Kiyo Nasu (Skokie, III.)

Watanabe, Taka, 89, Los Angeles, Feb. 28; Tottori-born, survived by s Seiya, d Junko Kondo, 6gc, 4ggc.

Sawamura, Hanai, 86, Sacramento, Mar. 9; Kochi-born, survived by Sawamura and Imai family.

Shigemori, Sakaye, 92, Pacoima, Mar. 22; Okayama-born, survived by s Kazuo, d Yuki Yamanouye, 4gc, 2ggc, br Shigeru (Jpn), sis Mitsuye Akiba (Jpn).

Watanabe, Pam C, 28, Los Angeles, Mar. 6; survived by h Tommy, s Robert, d Pauline Cabill

Yamaji, Lillian Hifumi, 67, Chicago, Mar. 18; Los Angeles-born, survived by h Arthur, s Barry, Dr Peter, d Caroline Cline, 2gc, sis Sarah Nako (Los Angeles).

Yamada, Shin, 96, Nampa, Feb. 20; Hiroshima-born, prewar Seattle resident, naturalized U.S. citizen, survived by s Manabu, Dr. Roy (Newberg), d Rina Fukuda (Seattle), Mary Wakasugi (Ontario, Ore.), 10gc,

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9ggc, br Kichiro Inaba (Jpn), sis Fusaye Miyakawa and Chiyoko Okazaki (both Jpn), h Harry Suekichi predeceased her in death in 1920 at Emmett, Idaho.

Yamasaki, Ichiro, 63, San Francisco, Mar. 3; San Francisco-born, survived by w Helen, s Walter, d Chieko, m Yukiko, br Kenjiro.

Yuto, Kayoko, 55, Hayward, Mar. 10; Tacoma-born, survived by h Tom, s Bret, Brad, 1gc, sis Fusae Yoshida, Keiko Weinberg, br Masatoshi Fujii, in-law m Jitsuyo Yuto.

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