



# Pacific Citizen

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San Diego looks at hate crime issue—page 4

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Friday, September 6, 1991

## Arizona creates strategies to fight hate crimes

Arizona is gearing up for tactics to deal with hate crimes.

According to a recent issue of the *Arizona Republic*, workplace "stings" and special training for prosecutors will be implemented by Atty. Gen. Grant Woods.

Woods recently met with Asian community leaders to assure them something was being done, especially in respect to the Aug. 10 slaying of nine people—six of them Buddhist monks—in a temple west of Phoenix.

The Asian community has been actively watching the investigation. Woods said that no motive for the killings has yet been determined but that a "hate crime has not been ruled out."

The *Republic* story pointed out that many of the Asian participants at the meeting with Woods expressed concern over the rising anti-Asian sentiment in the state.

Speaking at the meeting, Christine C. Iijima Hall, assistant vice

provost of Arizona State University West, said, "I've lived and worked in many cities. Phoenix isn't the worst, but one of the most oppressive. People don't want to admit or know we're multicultural."

In reaction to complaints that government agencies don't make efforts to deal with minorities, Woods said he would expand prosecutors' training to include contact with the Asian community.

Last week, the attorney general's office sent undercover staffers to track down discrimination in hiring and housing, Woods said.

The strategy is already used by several other states, the *Republic* said. It "catches people in the act, and has the potential to have a great deterrent effect," Woods said. "It's a good tool, and it needs to be done, especially now, so people understand we're actively enforcing the law."



### Reliving history

Above, from left, Rep. Robert T. Matsui, Bob Hasuike, Rei Noguchi, and Doris Matsui look over Manzanar model at the Third Manzanar All Camp Reunion Aug. 31 and Sept. 1 at the Bonaventure Hotel in Los Angeles. Below, attendees view photos of camp life. Theme of the reunion was "The Lost Years Reclaimed, 1942-46." Talks included topics such as "The Manzanar Free Press," "Terminal Island Residents' Experiences," "Life in Children's Village," and "The Orphanage Set Up by the U.S. Government." Video presentations were also featured as well as dioramas exhibited by the Japanese American National Museum. Matsui gave the keynote address.



## Workshop covers hate crimes

A workshop on combatting hate violence will be held Saturday, Sept. 14, from 1-5 p.m., at the Enmanji Memorial Hall, in Sebastopol, Calif.

The event, sponsored by the Sonoma Chapter, JACL, will feature authorities from various fields related to hate crimes, discussion groups, skits, and videotape presentations.

"Considering the alarming rate at which hate crimes are escalating, we felt the need to alert community members to the problem, and find ways of effectively dealing with it," said Carol Kawase, chapter president.

"And although the workshop is geared toward the Asian American community, it has wider application. We hope that all interested persons will take advantage of this opportunity and attend this worthwhile and timely event."

### Fighting hate

**WHAT:** Workshop discussions on how to deal with hate violence.

**WHEN:** Saturday, Sept. 14, from 1-5 p.m.

**WHERE:** Enmanji Memorial Hall, 1200 Gravenstein Highway South, Sebastopol, Calif.

**WHO:** Speakers include: Chizu Iiyama; Dennis Hayashi, attorney, Asian Law Caucus; Bob Swafford, managing editor of the *Press Democrat*; Greg Champion, assignment editor of KFTY Channel 50 TV; Pat Moffett, Sonoma County Sheriff's Crime Prevention Unit.

**ADMISSION:** Free  
**INFORMATION:** Mei Nakano, 707/829-0854.

## Minorities not getting contracts in California

Government bureaucracy may be costing businesses run by California minorities and women, according to a report by the state auditor general.

The report says that the largest government agencies are doing a poor job of creating bidding opportunities to underrepresented groups.

The study, reported in a recent *Los Angeles Times* story, shows that minorities garnered only 4.5% of the \$3.7 billion in contracts from the five state agencies that do the most procurements. Women captured only 2.4% of the contracts.

The agencies studied were the California State University system, Departments of Corrections, General Services,

Transportation, and Water Resources.

If the figures are correct, it means that these government agencies are not doing a good job of abiding by the 1989 legislation requiring state agencies to establish bidding rules to increase minority- and women-owned businesses.

The goal of the legislation called for minorities and women to receive 15% and 5% respectively of all construction, professional services, materials, supplies or equipment contracts.

The article also pointed out that the transportation, water resources and corrections agencies had done virtually nothing to implement the law.

## Multiculturalism subject of talk

DURHAM, N.H.—Multiculturalism in education will be the top of Prof. Ronald Takaki's talk scheduled for Monday, Sept. 23, at the University of New Hampshire.

The professor of ethnic studies at the University of California at Berkeley will discuss how a diverse student body can revitalize universities in the 21st century.

### Multicultural talk

**WHAT:** Lecture on "Multicultural University of the 21st Century"

**WHO:** Ronald Takaki, professor of ethnic studies, University of California, Berkeley.

**WHEN:** Monday, Sept. 23, 7:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** University of New Hampshire, Durham, N.H., 1925 Room, Elliott Alumni Center on campus.

**ADMISSION:** Free  
**INFORMATION:** 603/862-3102.

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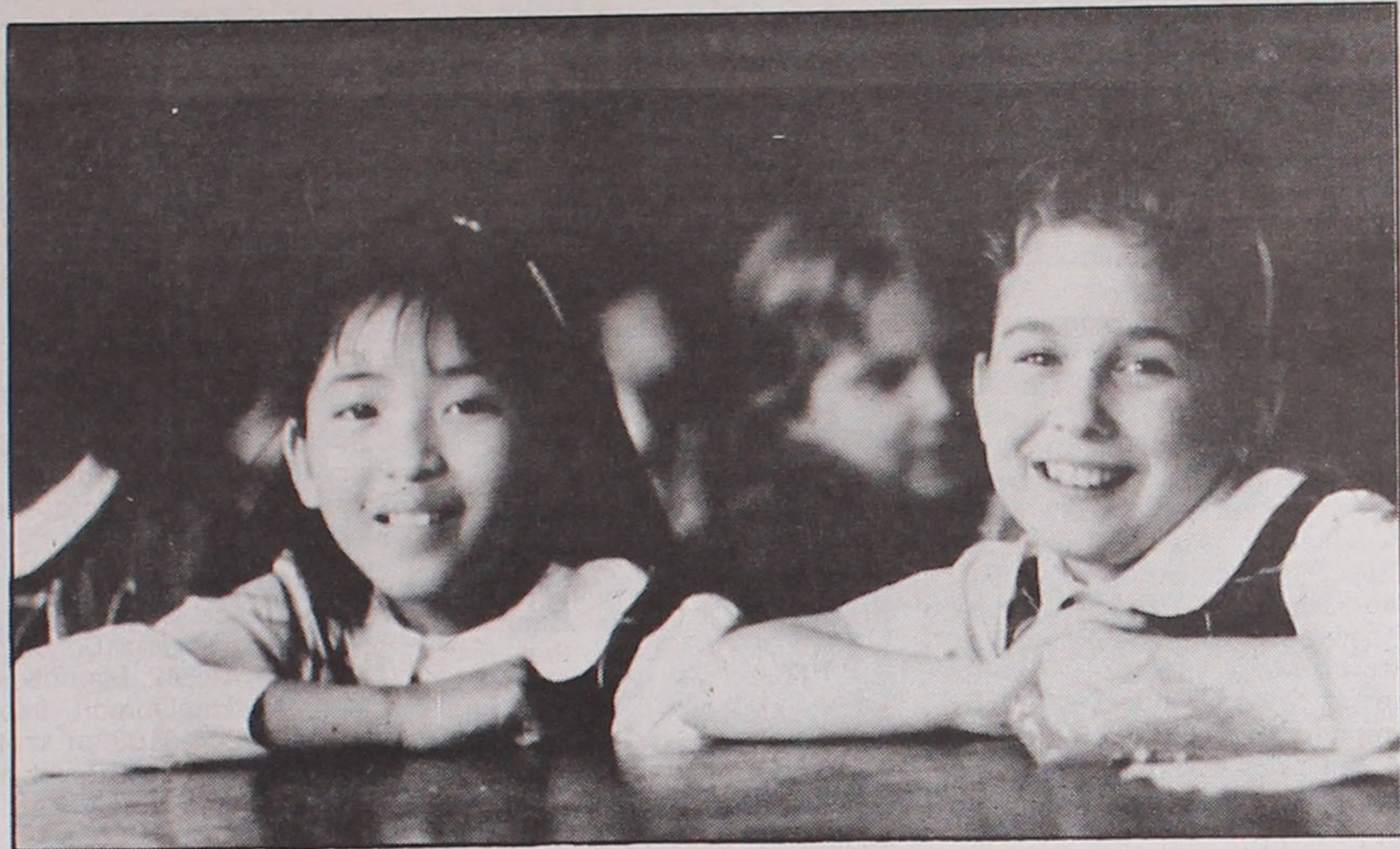
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## Documentary focuses on cultural diversity

A 90-minute documentary will focus on the changing faces and voices of America. "America Becoming," scheduled to air Monday, Sept. 16, on most PBS networks, attempts to capture the linguistic, cultural, class, racial, and ethnic diversity of America's communities.

The film documents the lives and relationships of America's new and diverse immigrants and established residents in six communities throughout the country. It tells the story of the relationship between newcomers and long-term residents by sharing the perceptions and views of people living the experience in Chicago, Houston, Philadelphia, Miami, Monterey Park, Calif., and Garden City, Kan.

Information: Kathy Gerhardt, 212/582-5521; Mary Schultz, 703/998-2875.

"America Becoming," a PBS documentary, explores the effect of new immigrants and long-time residents of American cities are having on each other and society. The program airs Monday, Sept. 16.



## Philadelphia event offers variety of talks, speakers

By HERB HORIKAWA

A total of 121 people attended various sessions and events of the Tri-District Convention at the Hershey Hotel in Philadelphia, Aug. 22-25. The convention included the Mountain Plains, Midwest, and the Eastern Districts of JCL. Delegates from as far west as Denver, as far north as the Twin Cities, and as far south as Albuquerque attended the various sessions.

The event was highlighted by two keynote speakers, Pat Saiki, former congresswoman and recently appointed (highest ranking Asian American appointed by President Bush) to head the Small Business Administration, and John Dunne, head of the Civil Rights Division in the Attorney General's Office.

In addition to the keynotes, the convention included several workshops. The Philadelphia Chapter presented Debbie Wei, who spoke on the topic of anti-Asian violence. Impressive was the chronology of incidence of Anti-Asian Violence in Philadelphia; disheartening was the response made by the police, district attorney's office, and the Human Relations Commission, she said. Wei said the most frustrating aspect of this is the limited response victims and would-be victims are able to make. The agency established by Debbie Wei, Asian Americans United (AAU) has become one of the most consistent advocates of the Asian victims of violence. The organization has established its presence with the police and in the courts. The hard work of AAU has mobilized Asians to attend various hearings and trials where Asian interests are at stake.

The Washington Chapter presented Dr. Jean Wu, a teacher and dean at Bryn Mawr College. The focus of this workshop was on textbooks used in schools. Although Wu is not a public school teacher, she does teach a course at Bryn Mawr/Haverford colleges which focuses on the lives of Asian

Americans. The papers written by her students make a clear statement that in schools across the country the contributions made by Asians in America is sadly neglected, she said. Asian and non-Asian students in her classes are stunned by the discovery of the ways in which Asians in America have been made invisible. Asians sense that they are of little historical consequence and that those from Europe are led to feel America is for Europeans. Corrections are beginning to come with the recent arrival of a number of Asian writers, Wu said. This plus the steady flow of Asians into higher education may eventually cause some changes, however, painful.

A third workshop was presented by the New York Chapter, which arranged for Richard Suenaga, editor of the *Pacific Citizen*, to present some concrete ideas of how news organizations are structured and how they operate. This was all geared to meet the possible emphasis on the 50th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. It is assumed that plans for this anniversary have been made. Thus, it is anticipated that the print and electronic media will have much to present on this topic. Each chapter may be well advised to be prepared to meet this with various positive initiatives of their own, Suenaga said.

The final workshop was presented by Haruko Brown of the New York Chapter. Haruko has been active in training JAACLers in the ways to conduct oral history interviews. This workshop was consistent with the theme of this conference, "Legacy for the Future." The Japanese Americans who lived during the early phases of American history in America are diminishing. If we are to preserve their story, stories which are not found in libraries or history books, then those who are alive now must be tapped for their individual oral history.

A lighter part of the conference was found at the Tri-District Open Golf Tournament, won by Gerry Shimoura, of the Detroit Chapter,

and at the reception on Thursday night, where the delegates were given special name tags with their names (in Japanese characters). Delegates in turn sought out other who had similar "characters" in their names. Philadelphia foods and Mummer's string band were featured at this event. The following evening the delegates gathered for a "karaoke" sing. This event was preceeded by a tour to the Japanese House and Garden in nearby Fairmount Park. It was delightful to see that a number of attendees were not bashful of stepping up to belt out a tune in Japanese as well as in English. The Conference culminated with the Sayonara Ball. Julie Nishimura of the Philadelphia Chapter's Board played a theme and variation of "KOJO NO TSUKI". Julie is an accomplished pianist and teacher at the University of Delaware. The featured speaker was Cressey Nakagawa, the national president. He charted the direction of the organization from the past through the present and to the future. Earlier, Grayce Uyehara paid tribute to Mike Masaoka, perhaps the most visible of the pioneers in establishing JAACL as an organization to be respected and to allow all people of Japanese ancestry in America to feel dignity. The final business meeting was chaired by Hank Tanaka, MDC governor.

The convention was considered to be a success by all who were in attendance. The speakers and workshops were said to be outstanding and the atmosphere was warm and conducive to creative thinking. The next Tri-District Convention will be held in the Midwest in 1993.

The convention, sponsored by the Philadelphia Chapter was co-chaired by Teresa Maebori and Herb Horikawa. The committee included Dick Horikawa (treasurer), Nancy Fukuyama (convention booklet), Reiko Gaspar (special events), Eiko and Bunji Ikeda (Sayonara Ball), Miiko Horikawa (registration), Hiroshi Uyehara,

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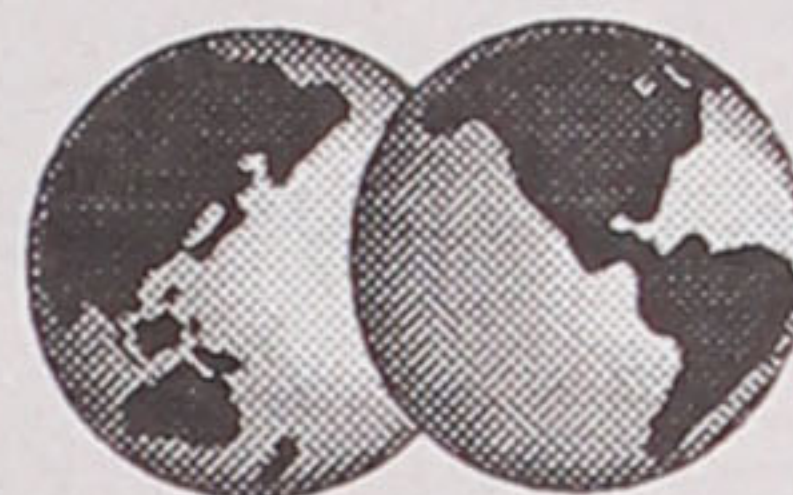
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## San Diego Asians told to face crime issue

SAN DIEGO — Four Asian American judges and a juvenile court referee sternly urged the Asian community to confront the gang problem head on. They were panelists on "Crime, Delinquency and Gangs in the Asian Community," at a forum Aug. 15 at Horace Mann Middle School.

Speakers were Municipal Court Judge Patricia Yim Cowett, presiding judge; Judge Gale E. Kaneshiro, municipal court; Judge Lillian Y. Lim, municipal court; and Hideo Chino, juvenile court referee.

Asian gangs, who are increasingly developing a hierarchy, favor automatic weapons and often do not wear gang colors, the panelists said.

What disturbs Judge Kaneshiro most is that Filipino gangs in particular are aligning themselves

with "major Black gangs"—namely, the Bloods and the Crips, and recalled a recent case of an 18-year-old Filipino who randomly shot at people who wore red clothes to avenge a person killed in one of those gangs.

Kaneshiro was also troubled by the reluctance of the youth's parents to acknowledge their son's crime. "They were upset that the San Diego police were questioning them about their son's gang activities. They were not thinking of the consequences of their son's actions."

Judge Cowett added that even though there is no evidence youth gangs are hooking up with organized crime, it is time for parents to take steps to quell the growing gang problem before the cycle of crime grips the younger generation.

Judge Lim noted, "It often strikes me how sweet and innocent these youths look even through they are in adult court. It's really a sad surprise."

Chino urged the Asians to confront the gang problem. In the past five years, the number of referrals to the San Diego probation department has more than doubled: from 334 in 1985 to 683 in 1990.

Cowett said there is no easy fix to the gang problem. "The dynamics involved are very complicated," she added. Part of the problem is parents who do not fully understand American culture because of the language barrier. Some parents also work long hours, leaving their children prey to gang membership for companionship, identity and respect.

## Nisei intelligence agent to keynote MIS reunion dinner

MONTEREY, Calif.—The unheralded story of Nisei intelligence agent, Richard Sakakida of Honolulu, will be told for the first time at the MIS 50th anniversary reunion dinner Thursday, Oct. 31, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel here.

Nine months before Pearl Harbor, two bilingual Nisei—Sakakida and Arthur Komori—were recruited by a Nisei officer for duty with the Corps of Intelligence Po-

lice (CIP), predecessor to the Counter Intelligence Corps (CIC). Both were sent to the Philippines posing as crewmen, but under guidance of the CIP had registered in small Japanese-operated hotels.

Sakakida posed as a draft dodger—a plausible story since several thousand Nisei were already in the U.S. Army. After the Japanese invasion, they were ar-

rested by the Filipino police as Japanese collaborators but rescued from prison by the CIP and sent to Corregidor to assist General Douglas MacArthur.

How he survived until the end of the war will be the story to be unfolded by Sakakida himself.

For tickets, contact MIS Reunion, P.O. Box 2350, San Jose, CA 95109-2350.

## VFW luminaries



—Photo by Hiroko Ninomiya

Marge Fleming, widow of Al Fleming, the "papa-san" founder of the 14 Nisei VFW posts in California, is flanked by, from left, Casey Kazuo Ninomiya, 1990-91 commander; installing officer Harry Tanabe of Post 9879, San Francisco; John Flannery, commander-elect, 17th District; and Joe Hisashi Isosaki, 1991-92 commander. The event was the recent installation rites of the Sacramento Nisei VFW Post 8985.

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## Agenda

### Florin

Pushing for 100% voter registration was designated by the Florin JACL Board, redress and civil rights committee as its top priority for the coming 1992 election year. "Every member and their families (3rd and 4th generation 18 years old and up) of the chapter shall be registered and encouraged to become a voting citizen and be counted," it was announced by Andy Noguchi and Mary Tsukamoto, redress/civil rights committee co-chair.

As voters, "we'll make a great difference together with other JACL chapters and other Asian organizations," they said. "We would then be empowered to influence legislation that will truly bring equal justice for all."

To become a voting registrar, Tsukamoto (916/685-6747) explained basic instructions will be provided at the County Registrar's Office, 3700 Branch Center Rd., Sacramento, CA, 95827-9910, 916/366-2051.

### Seattle

Steve Okazaki's Academy Award-winning documentary, *Days of Waiting*, and the Visual Communications produced video, *Redress: The JACL Campaign for Justice*, will be shown on Saturday afternoon, Sept. 14, at Nisei Veterans Hall, 1212 S. King St., at 2 p.m.

ORA director Robert K. Bratt is expected to speak the same day from 10 a.m. at redress-update workshop.

The chapter directory project, chaired by Janice Yee and Ken Sato, is expected to distribute its 1991 Greater Seattle and Vicinity Japanese Community Directory by mid-October. Newly available computer desktop technology will assure larger and easier-to-read type. Volunteers are looking up names, inputting and proofreading the data and soliciting advertising.

The last directory, published in 1982, contained some 6,000 names and 1,000 business firms. For 1991 directory information: JACL office, 206/322-3589.

### San Jose

Tom Shigemasa, San Jose JACL president and member of the San Jose Police Department (perhaps the only law enforcement official heading a JACL chapter) called for comprehensive educational and preventive program such as "Just

Say No to Hate" one-liner a la "Just Say No to Drugs."

The state of California hate crime panel, chaired by Lt. Gov. McCarthy, was accepting testimony and statements May 24 from organizations and individuals. Meanwhile, the local JACL Office 408/295-1250 or if an emergency, 911, should be contacted if members see or experience a hate crime, Shigemasa stated.

The JACL is concerned over the growing number and severity of hate crimes nationally, "although our city has one of the lowest crime rates in the nation and is believed to be more tolerant and sensitive than most," the statement began.

Two incidents were then recorded.

In February, 1991, rear windows were shot out on two vehicles parked in the driveway of an Asian family's home in San Jose. The cars were also spray painted with obscenities and the words, "die Nip" and "Remember Pearl Harbor."

In January, 1991, a Vietnamese woman found a letter in her mailbox with a threat to blow up the house and inflict physical injury besides comments about what they ate and how they looked. It was addressed to "Dear Knips" and signed "Hester." Based on the handwriting and contents, "Hester is believed to be a juvenile," the statement noted.

"Conducting seminars, workshops and panel hearings are good but limited means to educate the public," the San Jose JACL pointed out. "The media can and should assist us in reaching and educating the larger community by publicizing what hate crimes are, its peanities, and the tremendous impact it has on victims."

Shigemasa called for the state's educational system to document and tell the contributions of the many ethnic communities in addition to strong anti-hate legislation. For instance, "the internment of Japanese Americans (was) a tremendous mistake for which the President (and the Congress) has since apologized (and paying redress/reparations.)"

### Wisconsin

"Around the World in 60 Minutes" was the theme of the recent 1000 Club Whing Ding buffet dinner which culminated with lively entertainment emceed by Diane Aratani, chapter chair and 1000 Club chair. Seven locales were featured - Italy, Hawaii, Denmark, the Philippines, Ireland, Greece

and Japan (the solo by Eddie Jonokuchi and everyone dancing the *Tanko Bushi*, the coal-miner's ondo). Participants, who sacrificed several weekends to rehearse, were:

Dave Suyama, Sat Nakahira, Charlie Matsumoto as the "JACL Raisin Dancers;" Mickey Mukai/Lucille Miyazaki hula dancing school-pupils - Bill Suyama, Lynn Lueck, Jim and Margaret Igowski, Robbie Kimura and Dr. Aileen Denny at the keyboard for the Hawaii sequence; Lynn Lueck, Barb Suyama and Margaret Igowski as the "Three Little Piggies" in the Danish fairy tale, sheriff Ed Jonokuchi, the wolf (and star) Charlie Matsumoto, and narrated by Mickey Mukai; trying the bamboo dance, Mickey Mukai and Lucille Miyazaki; Jim Miyazaki and Sherri Fujihira in the land of Leprechauns.

### West Valley

The chapter's new group, the Next Generation, uses Japanese numbers - *Ichi-Ni-San-Shi-Go*, 1,2,3,4,5 - as their I.D. and offers a sprightly dressed page of news in the chapter's monthly bulletin. Besides the Otsuka fund raiser (see their June 14 P.C. ad on page 3) which has a chance of achieving its \$20,000 goal for a new passenger van for the Senior Club, the cultural tip corner explains the Japanese protocol or custom when meeting a person for the first time (present your business name card with both hands and treat it with respect). Another paragraph tells why seating arrangement is very important to the Japanese whether at home or at the restaurant.

Chapter president Dave Muraoka, in his message, praises the Next Generation for reviving the chapter picnic after a four-year hiatus. Brett Uchiyama organized the Saturday affair, John Kaku cooked the hot dogs and burgers.

### San Jose

The 1991 community Keiro-Kai dinner will be held on Saturday, Oct. 5, 4 to 6 p.m., at the Buddhist Church Annex with the Yu-Ai Kai and West Valley JACL Senior Club as co-sponsors and numerous groups, such as the San Jose JACL, participating. Seniors, 75 years of age and older, will be guests, according to Mark Kobayashi (408/

## AGENDA

(Continued from page 4)

522-3343), who is taking bento reservations.

The chapter is sponsoring a Day at the Races at Bay Meadows on Sunday, Oct. 27. Tickets at \$21 per person includes admission, program, reserved seating and buffet lunch, obtainable at the JACL office or Sakamoto's Barber Shop, 611 N. 6th St.

## Berkeley

The chapter board voted to co-sponsor the seventh Tule Lake Pilgrimage, set for the Sept. 27-29 weekend, and made a contribution to its planners.

Introduced in the board profile of the month was Ranko Yamada, secretary, whose JACL roots go back two decades when she belonged to the Stockton Jr. JACL. After graduating in law from UC Hastings, she joined the Yonemura, Yasaki & Baizer firm; her most celebrated case being the Chol Soo Lee case, which was later made into a movie, *True Believer*. She helped found Nihonmachi Legal Outreach in San Francisco, the Berkeley Asian Task Force and served on numerous city boards and commissions. She is currently serving on the Berkeley Board of Library Trustees. Married to Bob Matsueda, the couple resides in West Berkeley.

## W. Los Angeles

Financial and volunteer picture of the West L.A. JACL sponsored community Health Fair Expo (April 28), reported by John Gushiken, showed expenses for rental of canopies, food/refreshments, postage totaled \$598.65; less donations of \$184.97 for a net

See AGENDA/page 9

## Diablo Valley discusses JACL restructuring plan

PLEASANT HILL, Calif.—Of the three chapters responding thus far to Northern California-Western Nevada-Pacific district governor Neal Taniguchi's appeal for input on the proposed organizational restructuring of JACL, the Diablo Valley Chapter expressed the greatest concern. Because of that, Taniguchi recently explained the issue before members.

National wanted input about the structure of JACL—confederacy, i.e. local autonomy with loose knit national organization vs. federation, where separate roles are defined for chapter, district and national, according to Taniguchi who attended the Aug. 1 Diablo Valley board meeting here at the city hall conference room.

Taniguchi noted that JACL has always been a chapter membership-driven organization. However, because of the current structure, decisions at the National level have been delayed with resultant problems. A federation system by giving specific authority and responsibilities to national, district and chapter could be a more efficient arrangement.

He requested the chapter to consider this issue and provide further input and constructive criticism so that coordination and communication

to and from the chapters, districts and national can be improved.

Chapter board members also wondered: (a) Why it takes National so long to respond to news in the media; (b) How does National arrive at decisions, and (c) Why can't National take over the responsibility of membership renewals?

Serious questions raised at the June meeting prompted Taniguchi's presence as it appeared the National JACL's goals and objectives appeared uncertain and perhaps impact on the JACL Legacy Fund, according to co-president Dr. Elsie Baukol. "If there are serious apprehensions about JACL's future (re: restructuring) we must disclose these forthrightly to all members, especially to those who are soliciting for and to those who are contributing ..."

Four questions posed to the chapters were:

- (1) Is there a need to change JACL's core mission? How well are we achieving our mission?
- (2) What is JACL's desired future? What should we be five years from now?
- (3) What is JACL today? Its weaknesses and strengths?
- (4) How do we get to our desired future?

## Population boom poses challenges

By HARRY K. HONDA  
Senior Editor

The story of Asian immigration to the United States can be told in two thick chapters—(1) the first wave up to 1940 of some 426,000 Chinese and Japanese and (2) the new wave of 2 million Asians since 1965 when immigration laws were revised.

And the 1990 census figures 7.3 million Asian/Pacific Islanders—immigrant and native-born—have been announced. The 1940 total was close to 570,000: 77,000 Chinese, 274,000 Japanese, 140,000 Filipino, 75,000 Hawaiian and part-Hawaiians, and 1,800 Koreans.

How this distinctive and significant increase is shaping the fortunes of Asian American studies was the essence of Ellen Couglin's story and her interviews with a number of professors around the country involved with ethnic studies recently appeared in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, a Washington, D.C. weekly.

Asian American studies first bloomed on campus in the very late '60s. Earliest account in the *Pacific Citizen*, for instance, in Jan. 3, 1969, issue reported that UC Berkeley would have an experimental Asian Studies 100-X (5 units) class. A lecturer in criminology, Dr. Paul Takagi, was the UC Berkeley faculty representative in charge. More than 200 in the UCB class heard Fred Korematsu in a rare public appearance recall his own Supreme Court case.

And Dr. Ronald Takaki, today a professor of ethnic studies and author of *Strangers from a Different Shore* (1989), had just come on the Berkeley campus as a specialist in American black history. He spoke on race prejudice in California.

Regarding the picture today, historian L. Ling-Chi Wang, director of Asian American studies at Berkeley, thinks "it's on the rise and is the most exciting interdisciplinary field in higher educa-

tion," contrary to opinions by some who feel ethnic studies are on the decline. Speaking of the early years, "none of us knew what we were doing," Wang continued. "We only had a vision. We wanted the opportunity to look at Asian American history, identity and civil rights issues."

Across the bay, Asian studies at San Francisco State also began in February, 1969, as a part of its School of Ethnic Studies with anthropologist Dr. James Hirabayashi as chairman of the Asian American section. Now retired, he is curator at the Japanese American National Museum, Los Angeles.

In Seattle at the University of Washington, Dr. James K. Morishima, a professor of higher education, headed the Asian American studies program as director when it opened in 1970. Now the campus stir is to have all undergraduates take a "cultural diversity" course: one on U.S. racism plus another on specific American racial groups, preferably of color.

In Southern California, Larry Kubota and Alan Nishio (now at CSU Long Beach) launched in 1969 an Asian American experimental college at Inner City Theater in Los Angeles. At UCLA, Asian American courses were offered in the fall of 1969. Cal State Long Beach offered a few classes with Dr. Lloyd Inui, Dan Kuramoto and others.

With interest developing at the high school level in the mid-1970s, serious attention was being paid to textbooks and multi-media—a concern that still persists.

At UC Davis, rural sociology professor Isao Fujimoto initiated Asian American studies. He was director of the bibliography project of relevant postgraduate thesis, "Asians in America." Other compilations were to follow.

At the University of Hawaii, Manoa campus, after a year of planning, ethnic studies on five groups began in the fall of 1970 as a two-year experiment with Dr. Dennis Ogawa as program direc-

tor. The regents voted to continue the program in 1972 while Ogawa resigned because of the administrative burden. He later published several books on the Japanese in Hawaii, including *Kodomo no Tame Ni* (1978).

On the Manoa campus, though not a part of the university, is the East-West Center. It was created by Congress in 1960 as a national institution (meaning it was funded by the U. S. Congress and U. S. Agency for International Development) to bring Asian and American scholars to work together on common problems and foster understanding. Currently, some 2,000 grant recipients a year conduct research with a "think and do" thrust at the Center.

In the early years, researchers set out to uncover the Asian American past. Even articles from *Pacific Citizen* relating to the pre-war, evacuation and postwar history of Japanese in America were being clipped for class use by some instructors—especially the items that countered racial stereotypes, such as the Issei as laborers but citing those pioneers who contributed to growth of America.

As these Asian studies classes started in 1969, the JACL-Japanese American Research Project was about to publish its first book, Bill Hosokawa's *Nisei, the Quiet Americans*. This and Dr. Harry Kitano's classic, *Japanese Americans: The Evolution of a Subculture*, hit the bookshelves that summer. Allan Bosworth's 1965 book, *American Concentration Camp*, and the 1954 UC Berkeley Press's *Prejudice, War and the Constitution* by Jacobus tenBroek, Edward Barnhart and Floyd Matson were available and listed on early required reading lists.

The JACL youth (basically college students) published a selected bibliography of Japanese American material in April 1969, as the No. Calif.-Western Nevada District Youth Council project for the year and printed in the 1970 Holiday Issue (which is out-of-print.)

By 1974, National JACL ethnic heritage advisory council and staff

See BOOM/page 7

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**Opinions**



From the frying pan

**BILL HOSOKAWA**

**Times change: S.A. Nikkei job hunting in Japan**

Back in the 1930s virtually every liner sailing for Japan from the West Coast carried young Nisei who had the worried and uncertain look of job-seekers. They were going to Japan, probably for the first time, not as tourists, but in search of employment.

It would be wrong to say they were being pulled by opportunities. They were being pushed away from their native United States by twin forces of rejection—the Great Depression that made jobs scarce for everyone, and racial prejudice that held doors closed against them.

Work opportunities in Japan weren't attractive. The standard of living was so low that unskilled jobs in field or factory were no lure. It was better to pick grapes in the Central Valley of California or can salmon in Alaska than to labor knee-deep in the mud of a Japanese rice paddy or put in a 60-hour week in an Osaka textile plant.

So the goal was white collar employment. Unfortunately most of the Nisei, whose work experience and knowledge of the Japanese language were limited, had

little to offer potential employers other than English. Yet they were so desperate that the prospect of spending some time to learn enough Japanese to make them desirable on the job market seemed a viable alternative to menial dead-end employment in their native land.

It was not a happy time, but it comes to mind today under somewhat different circumstances.

Today, substantial numbers of Latin Americans of Japanese descent are heading for Japan in search of jobs and to escape economic chaos, political instability and run-away inflation at home. The Japanese have an expression for them: The U-turn people who are making a U-turn back to the ancestral homeland.

According to news items some 75,000 South Americans of Japanese descent had gone to Japan to seek work as of June a year ago. The Foreign Ministry eased immigration requirements at that time and now an estimated 100,000 are in Japan. Most of them are from Brazil, which is the country with the largest number of ethnic Japanese.

Conditions in Japan today are far different from the time when Nisei from the United States were looking to the old country for job opportunities. Japan is prosperous and is experiencing a manpower shortage. Even factory wage scales are comparable to those in the industrial West. Much of the menial work is being done by illegal immigrants from Southeast Asia. (The Japanese refer to the three K-words for jobs they leave to the illegals—*kitsui, hiken, kitanai*—which mean strenuous, dangerous, dirty.)

Japan is encouraging ethnic Japanese to join the labor force, perhaps in the hope that they have retained the old work ethic. The Labor Ministry has opened an employment information center in one of Tokyo's central wards, staffed with Portuguese-speakers, to provide job information. A news dispatch says the center planning to hold classes on personnel management for companies that hire employees of Japanese descent from South America. The centers will help to protect these job-seekers from fraudulent employment brokers. Times change. They do indeed. ☐



East Wind

**BILL MARUTANI**

**'Gaijins' in Nippon**

IN METROPOLITAN AREAS in today's Japan, it apparently is not unusual to find Westerners engaged in what may be described as menial labor in the service sector of employment: waitress, flipping hamburgers at Johnny Rockets in Roppongi, and even cleaning maids for Magic Maid of America. In an affluent society where the young Japanese denizens sniff down at such menial tasks, more and more foreigners from Australia, Canada and some from the U.S. are filling the void. In so doing, these Westerners are joining what was previously the exclusive domain of Asian foreigners, primarily from South Korea and Taiwan. The jobs pay from about ¥1,000, give or take, an hour which comes to little over U.S. \$7 which is a modest rate by almost any standard. Living on that in Tokyo or its environs is going to require some tough financial juggling and a lot of belt-tightening. Even so, in a five-year span, the number of registered foreigners almost quadrupled to over 64,000. Inevitably, a

certain number run afoul of the laws of Japan, ranging from pickpocketing to committing murder.

What happens to foreign miscreants within the Japanese justice system?

**THE COURT SYSTEM** in metropolitan areas such as Tokyo, Yokohama, Osaka as well as Okinawa, have set up "gaijin" (foreigner) courts. Tokyo's district court has set aside two sections for criminal proceedings involving *gaijin* miscreants charged with various offenses. Most offenses involve comparatively minor charges such as overstaying a visa, drug possession, pickpocketing, prostitution, shoplifting; there are also more serious charges such as major theft as well as murder. It is reported that most of those charged are Asians and few are Caucasians. Very often sentences of imprisonment are suspended on condition that the convicted offender be deported. Trials are without jury, the judge sitting in full judgment.

**COUNSELLOR MIKI**, a Japanese lawyer described as a "civil rights

lawyer, reportedly appears almost daily at the "Gaijin Court" in Yokohama, defending foreigners charged with criminal offenses. Counsellor Miki is reported as declaring that compared to Japanese miscreants, other Asians receive much stiffer sentences in Japanese courts. Citing to sentencing statistics over a period of almost five years, the counsellor says that whereas 62.5% of Japanese shoplifters are given suspended sentences, Asian foreigners experience only 23.6%. This given the statistics that in this same period in Tokyo some 340 foreigners were arrested for pickpocketing while, at the same time, over 4,000 Japanese were similarly charged.

Beyond stiffer sentences, according to Counsellor Miki, the Japanese department stores are more likely not to charge a Japanese caught shoplifting whereas an Asian foreigner is turned over to the police, reputedly "to make sure they don't come back."

**STIFFER SENTENCES** are apparent. See EAST WIND/page 7

**By the board**

By **RANDOLPH SHIBATA**  
MPDC District Governor

Many JACLers are asking themselves a question, what is next for JACL? Do we have any issues? Will JACL be needed?

However, I must report that yes, we will need JACL. The issues of the future will be more complex and require more energy than the issues of old.

My district, Mountain Plains has only a small population of Asians. Yet the explosive issues exist.

**Issue: Hate Crimes**

**Item:** On June 4, 1991, a Filipino-American family had a cross burned in their Albuquerque, N.M. yard. One year earlier in an unrelated incident, but also in Albuquerque, a Shin Issei was shot after three years of racial harassment.

**Item:** 83% of the chapters in Mountain Plains have had problems with hate crimes and ethnic intimidation

**Item:** In Omaha, Nebraska, the Southeast Asian Community receives threats from a person or persons purporting themselves to be the KKK

**Item:** A member of the Fort Lupton JACL receives a death threat from a person stating that "he is going to kill all the Japs"

**Item:** Six Japanese students are attacked by four Caucasian youths in a hate crime.

**Item:** Hwang Troung, an Asian is brutally murdered by two Skinheads in Houston, Texas.

**Issue: Asian Gang Violence.**

**Item:** The Chinese New Years Party co-sponsored by the Mile Hi JACL and the Denver Organization of Chinese Americans has a relatively poor attendance. This is because of recent Asian gang violence in the Denver area where Asian gangs from Texas attacked persons at Asian functions.

**Item:** The Houston JACL president reports that Asian gang violence is becoming a larger problem in the Houston Area

**Issue: Interracial Tensions**

**Item:** A boycott of Asian businesses by the Black Community was narrowly avoided in 1990 thanks to the work of Glenda Kay Joe and Betty Waki

**Item:** In Albuquerque, NM, a representative of the New Mexico chapter attends a meeting of a coalition of groups that addresses employment discrimination at local government defense bases. What that representative finds is that many members view Asians as overrepresented, and therefore, contributors to the problem.

**Item:** In New Mexico, a mother of an Asian American student laments the fact that her brilliant daughter cannot receive scholarship aid because she is not the "right" minority. Her daughter was denied admission to several West coast universities because "they had too many Asians."

Now I know, many persons would say that if we "behave ourselves and don't make waves," we won't have these problems. I disagree. First, we should not have to "behave ourselves and not make waves" to meet a standard of conduct beyond that which is required for any other American. We have earned the right to be ourselves, to show both courage and cowardice, industriousness and laziness, intelligence and ignorance, kindness and arrogance and to be both good and bad. Let us be guided by our hearts, minds, souls, and bodies, not by a need to fulfill a stereotype. At one time, we had to be a "model minority" to survive. But times have changed, and expectations have changed. We do not have to "step and fetch it" anymore. We must no longer accept being victims. Second, problems such as interracial tension and Asian gang violence will affect our communities. In Mountain Plains we have already seen these effects. To believe that we will be immune from the problems of Asian gang violence and interracial tensions because our ancestors came from Japan versus some other country is to believe the same lie that we would be immune from hate crimes because we were not Black or Jewish. Finally, Asians, even in Mountain Plains are becoming a more significant minority. We are no longer invisible. We are no longer a mere curiosity. We are in the minds of some people, a threat.

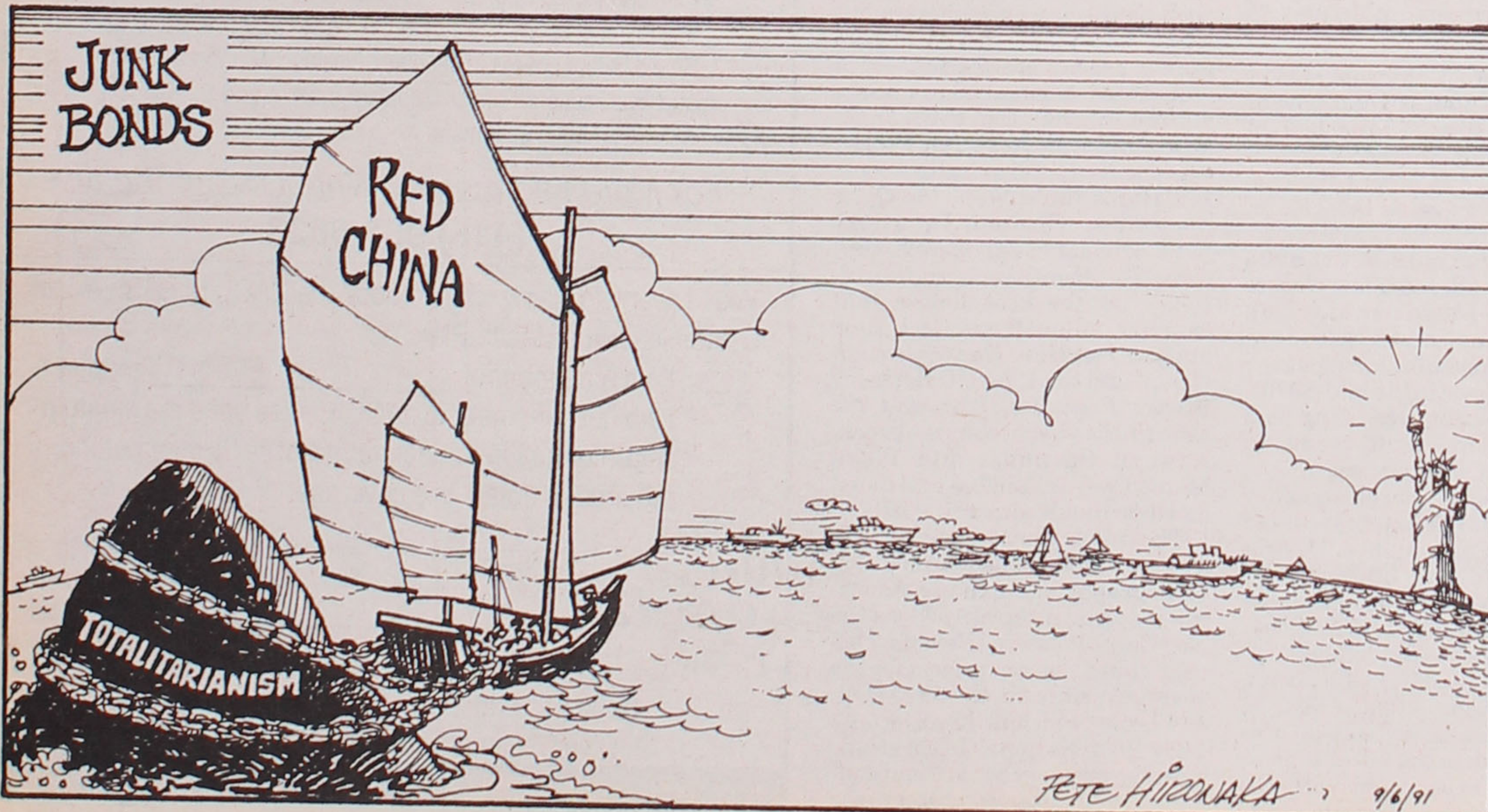
Some may question if JACL should become involved in these areas. But if JACL does not, who will address these issues? Only JACL has the track record to deal with issues such as these. So indeed, JACL's work is not done. Redress was not the end, but only the end of the beginning.

There are also internal issues that do directly affect us, and that we can do something about, if we have the moral courage, and the convictions in our beliefs about civil and human rights.

**Issue: JACL Image**

**Item:** At the Mountain Plains District Council meeting, several comments were

See BOARDS/page 7



PETE HIROUAKA 9/6/91













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