

Pacific Gitzen

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Youth Council responds to restructuring/page 5

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Friday, March 27, 1992

Police search house of murder victim's son

It's sounding like a murder mystery movie in which everyone's a suspect. One month after the murder of Japanese businessman Yasuo Kato of Camarillo, Calif., police are not ruling out any suspects.

The latest development is the search by Ventura County Sheriff's deputies of the house of the eldest son of Kato, Toshiyuki Kato who lives in nearby Ventura, Calif.

According to the Camarillo Daily News, authorities are not specifically calling Toshiyuki Kato a suspect in the murder. Lt. Joe Harwell told the Daily News that Kato was "fully cooperative" and remained calm throughout the search. Kato was in the Los Angeles area with his family when his father was killed Feb. 23.

The search, Harwell said, "eliminates one area. We want to know everything about everything about a homocide and we had questions about the home. We had hoped it might shed some light on the investigation."

The home of the younger son, Kiyoshi Kato of Oxnard, Calif., has not yet been searched but Harwell said that could happen in the future.

The Daily News also reported that authorities are at this point discounting that Kato was a victim of a hate crime.

Still, the murder remains clouded by facts and clues that still have not pointed in any direction. On March 11, the Los Angeles Times reported that Kato had left behind \$700,000 in debts from an unsuccessful real estate deal in the Antelope Valley area northeast of Los Angeles. Kato's two sons remain active with the Y&M Corp.

Short takes

Legislation introduced to complete redress

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Civil Liberties Act Amendments of 1992 were introduced March 24 to complete the commitment of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 which apologizes and offers compensation to Americans of Japanese ancestry interned during World War II.

The legislation will authorize an additional \$320 million to complete the redress program: \$250 million in fiscal year 1993, and \$70 million in fiscal year 1994, according to Rep. Norman

Mineta, co-sponsor of the legislation. The U.S. Department of Justice has announced that approximatley 75,000 former internees will be eligible for individual compensation payments of \$20,000. The Civil Liberties Act of 1988 authorized funding for 60,000 of these payments, based on the best estimates of the number of surviving former internees.

The Civil Liberties Act Amendments of 1992 would also make several administrative changes to the program, as requested by the Justice Department. Included would be compensation for approximately 40 Americans not of Japanese ancestry who accompanied their spouses or children into the camps.

"Congress must live up to its word," said Mineta, who authored the 1988 law. "The Civil Liberties Act Amendments of 1992 will ensure that redress forgets no one, and that no injustice is met with words of apology alone."

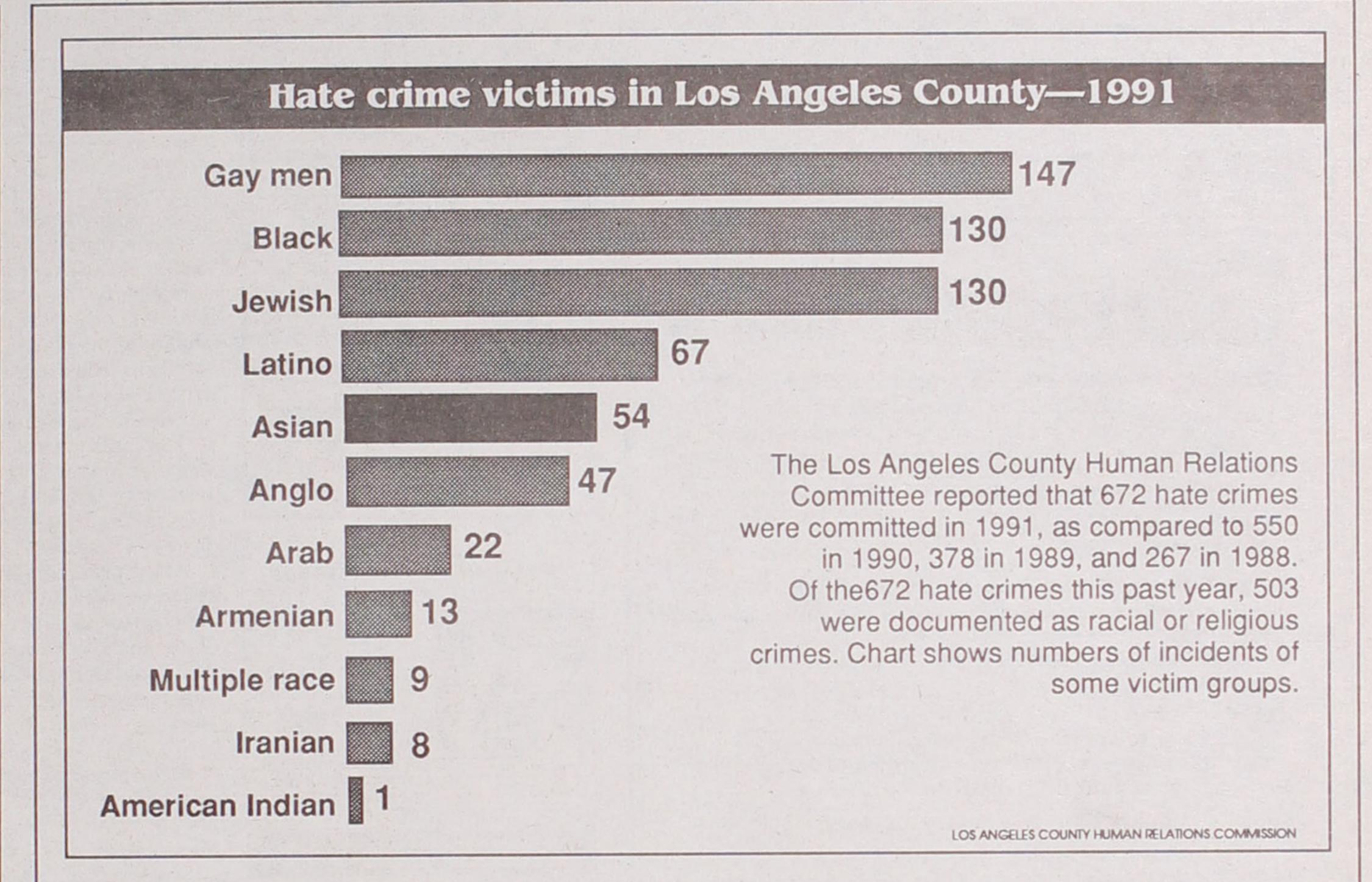
Among those joining Mineta as original cosponsors were Rep. Robert Matsui, Patsy Mink, George Miller, and Mel Levine.

One more apology needed by this California mayor

Sutter Creek, Calif., Mayor Rollin Brown apologized to a Chinese-born planner for making disparaging remarks about Asians, but in doing so shifted his remarks to the Japanese.

Brown cast a deciding vote against former Calaveras County Planning director Danny Mao

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Hate crimes hit record high in L.A. County—up 22% in '91

LOS ANGELES—Hate crimes in Los Angeles County reached an all-time high of 672 in 1991, a 22% increase over 1990, according to the County Commission on Human Relations.

In a report released March 20, the commission said that hates crimes hit record levels in the county for the seventh consecutive year.

Gay men, blacks, and Jews were victims of 60 percent of reported incidents. Hates crimes against Asians numbered 54. Here is the breakdown: 19 Korean, 9 Chinese, 6 Japanese, 5 Vietnamese, 3 Filipino; 3 Asian Indians; and I each were Sri Lankan, Pakistani, and Thai. The Asian ethnic origin of six victims were not known by the

Crimes against Asians increase. Commission cites 50th anniversary of Pearl Harbor and the local Green Line transportation controversy

commission.

By comparison, the number of Asian victims in 1990 totaled 49. Of that, 13 were Korean, 11 Chinese, 11 Japanese, 7 Filipino, 5 Asian Indian, 1 each Cambodian and Vietnamese.

According to Eugene Mornell, commission executive director, "In this report, there appeared to be a lot of people who were victimized because they were thought to be Japanese."

Commenting on the overall report, Mornell said, "The crimes are becoming far more aggressive acts that reflect a greater level of tension and hostility in the community."

In accounting for the dramatic increase in hate crimes, the commission cited the Persian Gulf War and its attendant and heightened sense of patriotism, the recession, the long-run-

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JACL national board meeting, March 14-15

Convention plans being developed

SAN FRANCISCO—The JACL convention scheduled for Aug. 3-8 is coming together in Denver, Colo., according to Ed Imatani, chairman of the event.

Speaking to board members at the JACL national meeting here March 14-15, Imatani gave a quick update on the convention activities. Among them:

- An exhibit from the Japanese American National Museum will be on display at the event.
- Fund-raising efforts have been successful to date, with more expected.
- Room rates are very competitive. Imatani said that hotel rooms at the San Diego convention cost more than \$100 per night. Rooms at the Denver convention will be \$71 per night, per person. Early registration is \$130 prior to June 25. Registration thereafter will be \$145. Registration includes business sessions, workshops, oratorical competition, welcoming reception, national awards ban-

quet, and sayonara banquet.

- Speakers and dignitaries are being lined up for the event. Sen. Daniel Inouye has agreed to be the keynote speaker.
- A youth program is currently being planned.
- About 60 active members are now working on the convention. As the event draws nearer, about 100 will be participating.
- A speech contest will be held with Chevron providing awards and expenses. The contest will be divided into high school and college competitions. Districts will select contestants for a prepared speech only contest.

"We're excited about the event," Imatani told Pacific Citizen. "We'll focus on the current atmosphere or circumstances in which JACL plays a major role . . . JACL is taking a major role in this period of time. That's the focus of our convention whose theme is 'Solid as the Rockies.' The focus is on the importance of JACL as a civil rights organization in these troubled

Imatani said that convention planners have also worked hard to make the event enjoyable as well. "We've worked mightily to make this a family convention. to make it affordable. We have a variety of activities to do, a lot of places to see."

Member benefit programs reviewed

Two membership benefit programs were discussed at the meeting. They are:

- A long distance calling program in which members receive 5% off for long distance calls through U.S. Sprint. This would also benefit the organization as it would receive royalties from member us-
- age. • A long-term care insurance program will provide both long-term and home health care benefits for members. The program will be handled by Albert H. Wohlers & Co. and carried through CNA.

According to Bill Yoshino, Midwest regional director, the program will likely begin in the fall of this year. Details will be released at a later date.

This program would also benefit the organization since it would receive royalties when members sign up the insurance.

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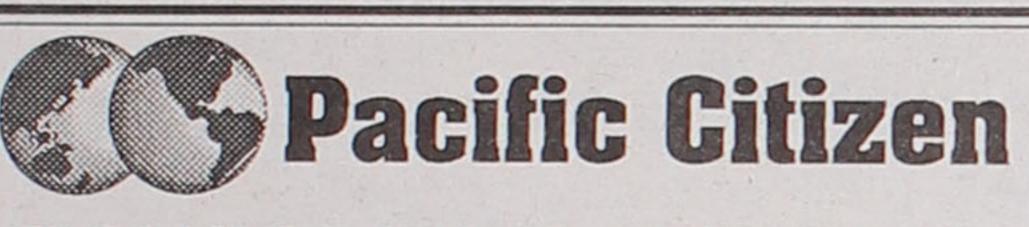
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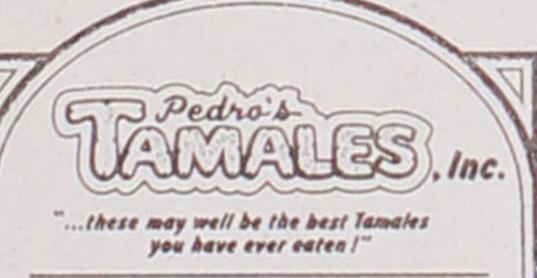
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Support for memorial to honor war dead announced

LOS ANGELES—The Coalition for Nikkei War Memorial Monument scheduled a March 24 press conference here to announce views and endorsements on its position on the proposed Japanese American War Memorial Monument to be erected in Little Tokyo.

The proposed monument has been a source of controversy with one faction, the 100th/442nd/MIS War Memorial Foundation, desiring to place the names of both living and dead veterans on the monument, and another group, represented by the coalition, that wishes to pay tribute to only those who died in all wars and conflicts.

According to the coalition, the intent of the event is to announce and clarify the positions of Sen. Daniel Inouye who in writing says that he supports a monument that would be "a lasting tribute to those who died in brave and honorable service to the United States."

The coalition also says that Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley sent a letter to the Memorial Foundation saying that he supports Sen. Inouye's position.

At the press conference, the coalition was scheduled to announce its position in support of the Nisei Veterans Coordinating Council Memorial Committee's concept for the proposed monument as follows:

 No names of surviving veterans will be on the First Street North Porject Memorial Monument, with one exception-the Congressional Medal of Honor Hershey Miyamura, along with all other Americans of Japanese ancestry Congressional Medal of Honor recipients.

 Included on the monument will be an engraved story telling of the valorous actions of the 100th Battalion, 442nd Regiment and the daring courage of the Military Intelligence Service whose efforts saved millions of lives and shortened the war by two years.

 Engrave a story telling the history of Americans of Japanese ancestry from the earliest Issei to the internment, from the loyalty displayed by the Nisei in the service during the internment of their families to the latest redress, reparations and the apology from the U.S. government.

The coalition says this concept should replace the Memorial Foundation's" 13,500 commingled names of their KIAs and surviving veterans." As an alternative to placing the names of survivors on the granite monument, the coalition propses a joint venture with the new Japanese American National Museum in which a honor roll could be housed similar in nature to a department store registry. Initially, it would begin with a listing of all 100th/442nd/MIS, KIAs, deceased and living. The registry could feature a brief background and possibly a photograph and computer printout on an individual.

The coalition also announced a "Get Acquainted Kick-Off" dinner for the war memorial monument on Thursday, May 21, at the Stevens Steak House in the City of Commerce, at 6:30 p.m. Inforrecipient during the Korean War, mation: Sam Shimoguchi, 310/ 515-2771.

TAKES

(Continued from page 1)

in his bid for a contract, saying that Asians "are non-committal" and "smile and nod their heads up and down," to questions put before them, according to the Stockton Record.

In apologizing for the remark, Brown said, "If my remarks appear to be a generalization, I apologize. My remarks were relative to my experience with native Japanese people."

Brown was formerly a Pacific Rim corporate executive and is running for the Amador County Board of Supervisors.

Matsui bill would protect VA benefits

WASHINGTON, D.C.-Legislation to correct an incongruous situation in the Veterans Administration pension law that is currently keeping recipients of redress funds from receiving their full VA benefits was introduced March 24 by Rep. Robert Matsui.

Matsui had written to VA Sec. Edward Derwinski on behalf of two constituents who had been informed by the VA that their acceptance of their \$20,000 redress payment was being counted as income against their pension benefits. The congressman argued that Congress had explicitly intended that redress should not count against eligibility for any federal program assistance, and asked the VA to reconsider its ruling.

Because one of the three VA pensions plans does not fall within the definition of federal program as delineated in the legislation authorizing redress payments, VA lawyers ruled technical legisla-

See TAKES/page 4

Seeking Speeches of Minoru Yasui

I'm writing about Min Yasui, and need tapes (casette or video) and/or transcripts of speeches. Since he spoke extemporaneously, manuscripts do not exist in his files. Any tapes or leads are greatly appreciated: I'm glad to pay copying and postage expense. Please send to:

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Youth Council responds to reorganization

The following is the response from the National Youth Council of JACL regarding the proposed restructuring of the organization made at the March 14-15 national board meeting in San Francisco.

Chapters—JACL Select Committee on Organization Structure (SCOS) recommends chapters conform to "national guidelines."

We agree that all entities of the organization act as one unified entity. However, there is some confusion about what "national guidelines" are. Will the guidelines be similar to the National Program for Action? Will the guidelines replace the Program for Action?

We recommend the development and distribution of a President's Handbook for all chapter presidents (i.e. similar to PSW President's Handbook).

National Board—SCOS recommends that each district council nominate a candidate for National Board membership who will be elected by the National Coun-

We agree that each district council should have a representative to the National Board. However, we feel that each district council should have the right to

vote for their own representative. We understand that the intention of the SCOS to have a National Board that represents national concerns, but we feel the districts lose a fundamental right in the ability to select their own representatives.

National Standing Committees-SCOS recommends the creation of several standing commit-

We agree that there is a need for several of these recommended committees. However, we feel that each of these recommended committees needs to be clearly defined.

We question the need for a public affairs policy committee when the SCOS report recommends that the National Board should focus on policy making. Does this include public affairs policy making? If not, we agree on the recommendation of a public affairs policy committee. This needs more clar-

We recommend the retention of the civil rights committee that was created at the 1990 San Diego convention.

We also recommend the formation of an additional standing committee: federal legislative committee. This committee should

be representative of the national organization with representatives from each district. The committee should assist staff in raising awareness of federal legislation impacting our community as well as in building a national advocacy network.

National Staff-SCOS recommends that national staff be restructured with several divisions.

Again, we feel these divisions need to be clearly defined. We also question the need for an international relations division given our current constitution and bylaws.

National Officers—SCOS recommends titles for officers.

We suggest a title change for two of the vice presidents: vice president for membership and benefits and the vice president for marketing (instead of for communications and public relations).

Our rationale for the title changes are that "benefits" sound more appealing to members than "services," and "marketing" implies spending money to bring visibility and income to the organization whereas "public relations" implies spending money without any direct benefit to the organization.

National Youth Council-SCOS did not have any findings

or recommendations for the National Youth Council.

The National Youth Council section of the bylaws should be rewritten and placed after the section on the National Council in order to show continuity.

We recommend that the National Youth Council continue marketing JACL to youth and students and educate them about the organization. We will assist with membership recruitment, but that shall not be the primary responsibility of the National Youth Coun-

We also will offer the following as a constitutional amendment to the National Council in Denver:

Article VII. The National Youth Council

Section 1. Composition: The National Youth Council shall be comprised of the National Youth Council chairperson, the National Youth representative, and the eight district youth representa-

Section 2. Functions and powers of the National Youth Council: the National Youth Council shall (a) elect its own representativesthe National Youth Council chairperson and the National Youth

Council representative-plus one vote from the National Council to the National Board; (b) direct the implementation of programs consistent with the Youth Program for Action at the national level designed to address the needs and concerns of youth and student members within the national organization; and (c) participate in and direct programs to address the needs and concerns of youth and student members at the district and chapter levels.

Section 3. Adoption of a Youth Program for Action: the National Youth Council shall consider and adopt a Youth Program for Action for the ensuing years designed to maintain and vitalize a national JACL youth program and to achieve the aim and purposes of the national organization. Such actions shall be construed as establishing the policies of the National Youth Council, and it will be guided by such policies.

Section 4. Relationship to the national program: the National Youth Council shall be as autonomous as is consistent with the constitution and bylaws and with the policies and programs of the national organization.

See YOUTH/page 6

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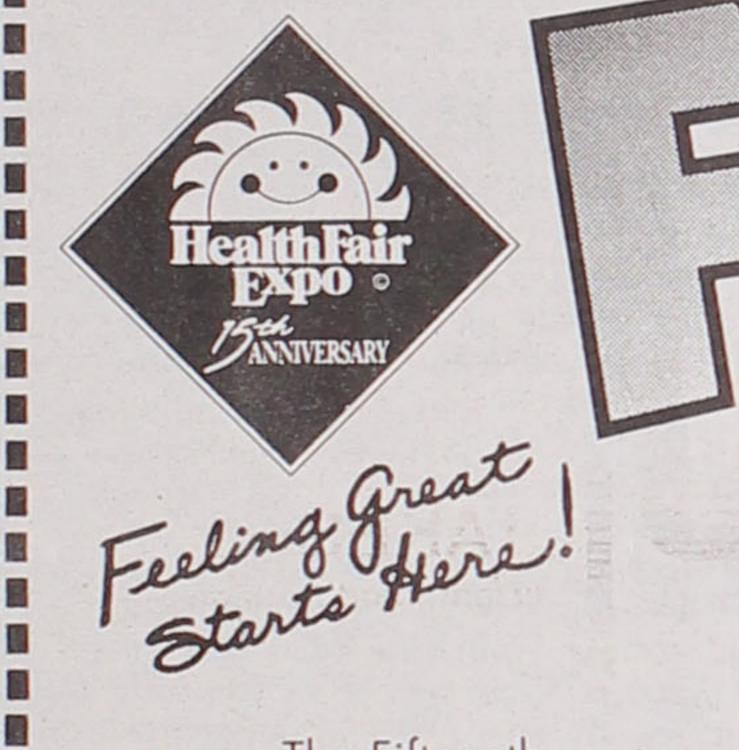
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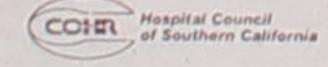
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Japanese Institute of Sawtelle 2110 Corinth Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90025 Sunday, April 12, 11am-3pm

Northridge Fashion Center 9301 Tampa Ave. Northridge, CA 91324 Saturday, April 11, 10am-4pm

Glendale Galleria 2148 Glendale Galleria Glendale, CA 91210 Saturday, April 25, 10am-4pm Sunday, April 26, 10am-4pm

Pasadena Senior Center 85 E. Holly St. Pasadena, CA 91103 Friday, April 10, 10am-2pm

Garfield Medical Center 525 N. Garfield Ave. Monterey Park, CA 91754 Sunday, April 12, 9am-3pm

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pinions



From the frying pan

BILL HOSOKAWA

A different Evacuation story

here are many strange, wonderful, bitter and moving stories about Evacuation experiences. Probably the most unusual must be that told by Kiyoaki Murata in his recently published book, An Enemy Among Friends (Kodansha International, \$19.95).

The title of the Japanese language version, Saigo no Ryugakusei, which translates roughly as "the last student to go overseas," is more revealing. Murata was a solemn, earnest schoolboy in a small town near Osaka when he met his great-uncle, Zenbei Murata, an immigrant who had built a successful nursery business near San Leandro, Calif. Zenbei invited Murata to come to the States for his college education, but died before the boy was old enough to accept the offer.

Zenbei's widow, Kane, assured young Murata the invitation was still good. Murata, age 18 and hair cropped short in student style, landed in San Francisco on June 18, 1941 even as war clouds were boiling up over the Pacific. Only one Japanese liner entered a U.S. port after that. Murata in all probability was the last Japanese student to arrive in the U.S. before war's outbreak.

That left him in an uncomfortable situation. There were wild rumors that Japan had flooded the U.S. with student infiltrators, making him suspect. He and his greataunt moved to Visalia in the "free" zone hoping to avoid evacuation, only to be sent off to the Poston WRA camp in the pitiless Arizona desert when all of California was declared off limits.

Murata tells of being torn by his sense of obligation to return to Japan to serve his country in uniform—a sense of duty that had been drilled into him at home. That conflicted with his pledge to his parents that he would complete his education in America before returning. Overall was the confusion of being an enemy alien among people who showed him no animosity.

Murata was astonished that the U.S. government would let him leave the camp to attend a university, that even as his country and the U.S. were at war he could get jobs, menial as they might be, in Chicago and enroll in college classes. In traditional Japanese fashion he accepted his hardships as part of the price he was will-

ing to pay to reach his goals. (The one chilling experience was a long and intensive session with an FBI agent.)

When war ended he learned Japanese military forces had been disbanded. Freed from his obligation to serve, Murata decided to continue with his studies at Carleton College in Minnesota and then for a master's degree at the University of Chi-

But once he had his degree Murata had trouble getting an exit permit to go home. He finally made it in 1948, joining the English language Japan Times in 1949. He was editor in chief when he retired in 1982. He currently teaches at Yachiyo International University.

As befits a journalist, Murata has been outspoken although not particularly so in this book. His views of WRA camp life, told as a Japanese saw the experience and published elsewhere, have been criticized unfairly by some who have a darker perspective. Be that as it may, An Enemy Among Friends is an interesting account of a young Japanese student's experiences in wartime America, revealing a view of Americans not readily visible to us. PC

TAKES

(Continued from page 2)

tion is required to exempt redress payments from consideration under the older VA pension plan.

"With the introduction of this legislation and with the backing of the Veterans Administration, we are taking the appropriate steps to removing this inadvertent but discriminatory technical problem with the 1988 redress law," Matsui said.

Derwinski has endorsed the legislation.

Not again . . .

In an ultimate irony, 50 years after Executive Order 9066 and the loss of her West Sacramento farm, Yoshie Iwasaki may again be separated from her property.

According to the Sacramento Bee, a local governing board is thinking about removing the 83-year old widow from her land to build a new high school and upscale homes.

Iwasaki, who was interned in Tule Lake with her late husband and son, was given no advanced warning, according to the Bee.

"I went through this once before and I said then I would never leave this place again," she said. "This is another internment if they get this place without our consent."

After indicating Iwasaki's farm as the best site, the board is scheduled to vote on matter later this month.

The Bee reported that the Washington Unified District did not notify Iwasaki because no formal action had been taken by the district. But Del Alberti, district superintendent, said in January that the district could "seize the property by condemnation or that the city of West Sacramento was willing to cooperate by rezoning the land as non-agricultural."

Iwasaki and her son and daughter intend to fight for their land.

Bill to help fight job discrimination

Legislation to end employer discrimination against ethnic minorities was introduced March 19 by Rep. Matthew G. "Marty" Martinez (D-Calif.).

The Immigration Anti-Discrimination

See TAKES/page 6

Letters

Listing of living veterans on memorial opposed

"Vets pleased with listing of names" (Pacific Citizen, Jan. 31 headline) may appear to you and others (a few) to be so but the J.A. VFW posts of California unanimously think not. The 14 posts convened at its 42nd annual Nisei VFW reunion at La Mirada Feb. 14 unanimously urged the mayor, the city council and the chief executive officer of the City of Los Angeles to oppose the placing of the names of living veterans and civilians to the memorial monument to be erected at the First Street North project site. The resolution was presented by David Monji, commander, L.A. Nisei Memorial Post 9938, VFW.

And the 13-minute videotape, you must admit to be allegedly misleading, soliciting for a "memorial" when the advertisement in the P.C. Holiday Issue (Dec. 17-24, 1991), clearly states it to be a "Vets Honor Roll."

Harold S. Harada, DDS Culver City, Calif.

Remembering Sen. Hayakawa

Dear Harry:

I notice you had trouble with S.I.'s obituary (P.C., March 6) devoting half of it to Richard Akagi's testimony in favor of the Walter-McCarran Act before the Presidential Commission on Immigration and Naturalization,

It's hard to say anything nice about a man of Japanese extraction whose utterances as Senator might have been written by Lillian Baker.

Noriko Bridges

San Francisco, Calif.

· Dear Noriko: You and I remember the battle JACL had in securing naturalization for Issei in the post-WWII period. This was P.C.'s way of filling a slice of Japanese American history many readers may have forgotten or were not aware of - and Hayakawa's record on the issue. He was opposed to JACL's thrust but he was naturalized in 1954. He didn't waste time.

- Harry K. Honda

(Noriko made history in 1958 when she and her late husband, Harry Bridges, were married in Nevada which had a law against mixed marriages. They successfully contested it and the courts agreed, invalidating the law.)

Former JACL president protests "Miss Saigon"

The following is a letter from Dr. Clifford Uyeda, former JACL national president and currently president of the National Japanese American Historical Society., to the Toho Company, Theater Division, of Tokyo, Japan.

"Miss Saigon" has generated protests from Asian American community since the

summer of 1990. One of the controversies was about the Asian American actors' quest for parity in the acting profession in America. A much greater objection was the racist nature of the play itself. The Asian actors in the play are given caricature roles and denigrated as corrupt yellow hordes.

At this particular time in history when Americans feel threatened by Asian immigration and Asian economic competition, many Americans relish in (Miss Saigon" which portrays Asian women as decadent prosititutes whose only useful purpose in life is to service the American males' sexual appetite.

What is outrageous is that Toho Theater plans to produce this outright racist "Miss Saigon" in Tokyo. Their insensitivity toward Asians, including themselves, is astonishing to say the least.

Japan should have learned by now that everything from the West is neither always desirable nor event appropriate. Toho is unwittingly promoting this degenerate view of Asian women, including Japanese women.

Artistic freedom is not the issue here. The real issue is whether the Japanese people have the sensitivity toward themselves and toward other Asians to recognize the westerner's decadent view of Asians cleverly promoted as entertainment. Those who are familiary with America know that Americans respect those who respect themselves.

Clifford Uyeda San Francisco

HATE

(Continued from page 1)

ning black-Korean tensions, and the general conflicts that arise from a community that is congested and diverse.

Mornell added, "Every year, there seems to be a declining level of civility for others in our community."

In the Los Angeles Times, Joe Hicks, executive director of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, said, "It doesn't surprise me that the numbers are up. We just came out of a jingoistic war that made people the target of attacks, desperate economic times seems to pit ethnic groups against each other for jobs . . . There is more tolerance for verbal assaults against peo-

The commission also reported that almost twice as many arrests were made in 1991 as in 1990.In 1991 there were 95 arrests for 51 different hates crimes. Thirtysix of that total were identified as racial hate crimes.

The district attorney's office took 21 hate crimes cases to court in 1991, Mornell said.

"There were a good number of prosecutions," Mornell said. "Law enforcement was much more effective. A number of groups were also increasingly effective as a network, about 30 member organizations."

Legacy Fund

For the record

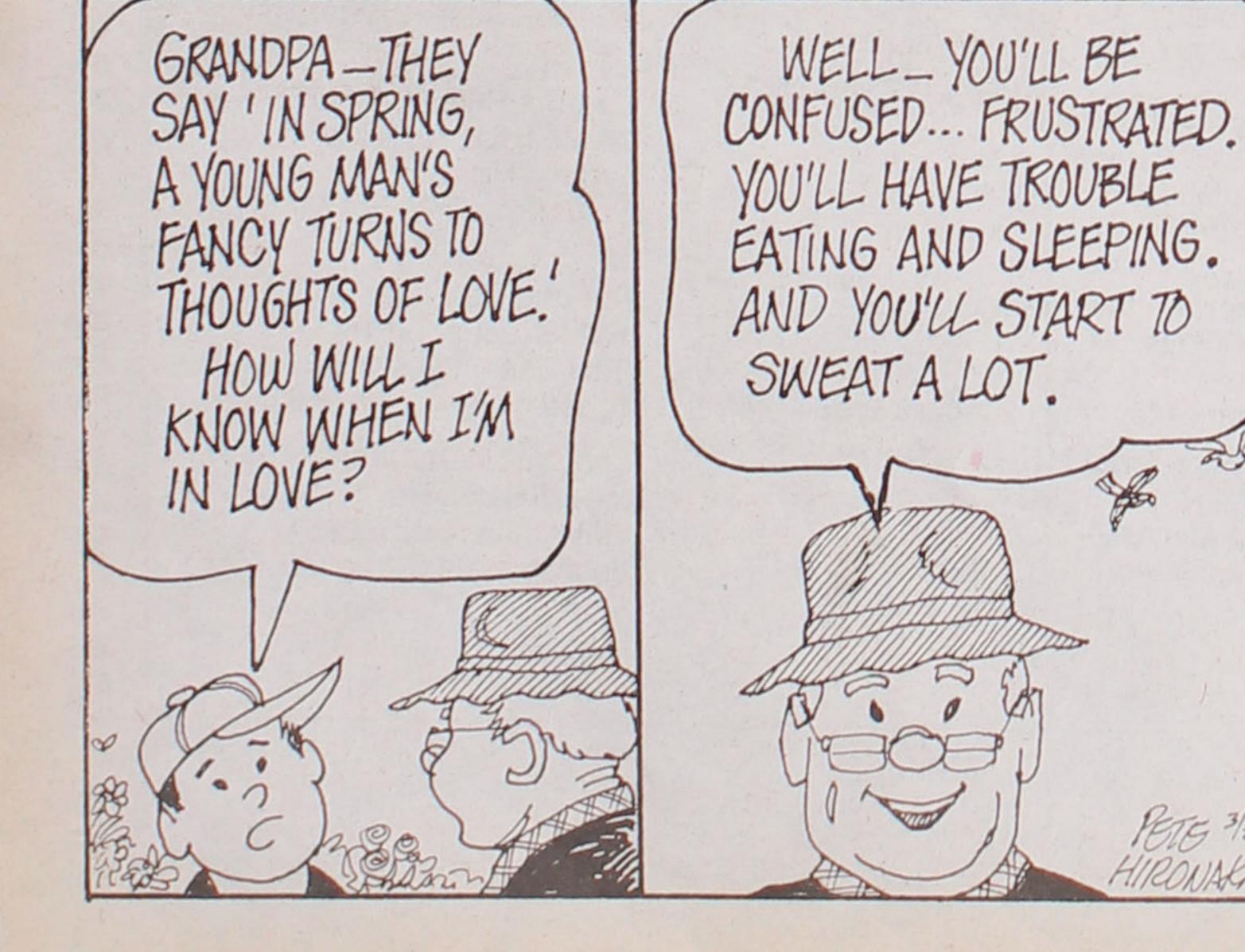
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How to make textbooks better

A status report from the JACL Education Committee

By Dale Shimasaki, committee chairman

To those 35 or over, 1971 is recent history. For me, I vividly remember my years in high school. history books portrayed Japanese Americans. Basically, our textbooks stated that (1) over 110,000 Japanese Americans went to camp as an act of military necessity, and (2) an individual named Fred Korematsu went to the U.S. Supreme Court to challenge the constitutionality of the camps.

But that was all. Only one short paragraph in a 500-page textbook on U.S. history. There was no discussion of the constitutional, moral, or humane problems related to the camps.

More remarkable was the insecure response of the Asian students at San Lorenzo High. One day three Asian students, all classmates of mine, were in a cafeteria. They were talking in a low whisper fearing that the other students, particularly Caucasians, would hear. Their revelation was the Kenny Korematsu, our classmate, was Fred's son.

This revelation raised a reaction of question and fear. Does Kenny know? Should we let others know? How would other students react if they know. How will Kenny react? Will he show up to class? Should we show up to class?

Upon reflection, that event was a sad testament to our educational system. Sad because 500 pages of U.S. history had only one paragraph on the experience of Japanese Americans. Sad because the paragraph was a terse, incomplete, and in many ways an inaccurate portrayal of Japanese Americans and internment. Sad because an educational system which is predicated on equal opportunity did not give equal treatment in history to the experience of all Americans. Sad because the educational climate drove four Asian American students into intimidation and fear. It prevented us from discussing openly an event in history which had many implications for demoracy, civil rights, and the Constitution. Sad because we now know that rather than concealing our knowledge of Fred Korematsu's struggle, we should have proudly shared it with Kenny

Small kid time

and our classmates as an important educational lesson in U.S. history.

JACL Education Committee

This is why the JACL Education Committee is so important to me. The committee is pursuing a strategy to make sure that instructional materials:

1. accurately portray the experience of Japanese Americans and

2. specifically, that internment was a violation of human rights and not an act of military necessity.

In education, there is nothing so powerful as the written word. Teachers develop their lesson plans around textbooks.

Parents review the materials to measure daughter's and/or son's performance in school. For students, they embrace every word, as if it were gospel.

Proper portrayal of the Japanese American experience, although a noble effort, will be difficult to achieve. Every state and school district handles selection of textbooks differently. In California, for K-8 schools, there is a uniform adoption process for textbooks. But for high schools, each school district has its own selection process: that's 1,042 different districts in California alone. Many high schools use textbooks which still do not mention the constitutional violations related to internment. This occurs despite the fact that the state has a curriculum framework to follow.

Yet, not every state is like California. New York has a process different from Nevada. Iowa has one different from Texas and so on. That requires this committee to not only be sensitive to the policy issues related to curriculum, but also the variation in procedures and communities among the regions.

Moreover, textbooks are big business. In California, the Constitution requires that textbooks be free in public schools. Cur-

THE FINAL FOUR?



rently, the state appropriates \$135 million for K-12 textbooks each year. To publishers, this means big money. The \$135 million ends up in the publishers' pocketbook. Publishers cannot afford to and they prefer not to rewrite texts tailored for each individual district. It is more profitable to use the same text in Alabama as in California.

These characteristics of the textbook industry highlight the fact that seeking an accurate portrayal of Japanese Americans and the internment will be, at best, an uphill battle.

Strategy

Our committee understands

Sadbecause 500 pages of U.S. history had only one paragraph on the experience of Japanese Americans ¹

> these complexities and has developed a realistic strategy to deal with this issue. This is a strategy which is achievable, affordable, and reasonable.

> Our committee will prepare a resource manual to be made available to JACL chapters. Such a manual will include a brief history of the internment, the constitutional issues raised by the internment and sample lesson plans for instructors. It will also include a comprehensive bibliogrphy of available curriculum guides, books, films, videos, and other resource materials which will enable teachers to adapt the subject matter for different grade levels in accordance with their own state and/or local curriculum guidelines. This manual will not be one which reinvents the wheel, but rather, represent a compilation of existing model resource and curriculum guides relative to the Japanese American internment.

> This manual has other benefits. The informaion can be shared with publishers for incorporation into their texts or teacher resource guides. In addition, such a manual can be shared with policy-makers, school board mem-

> > WHY ME? WHY ME?

See TEXTBOOKS/page 8

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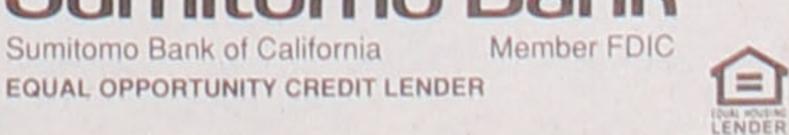
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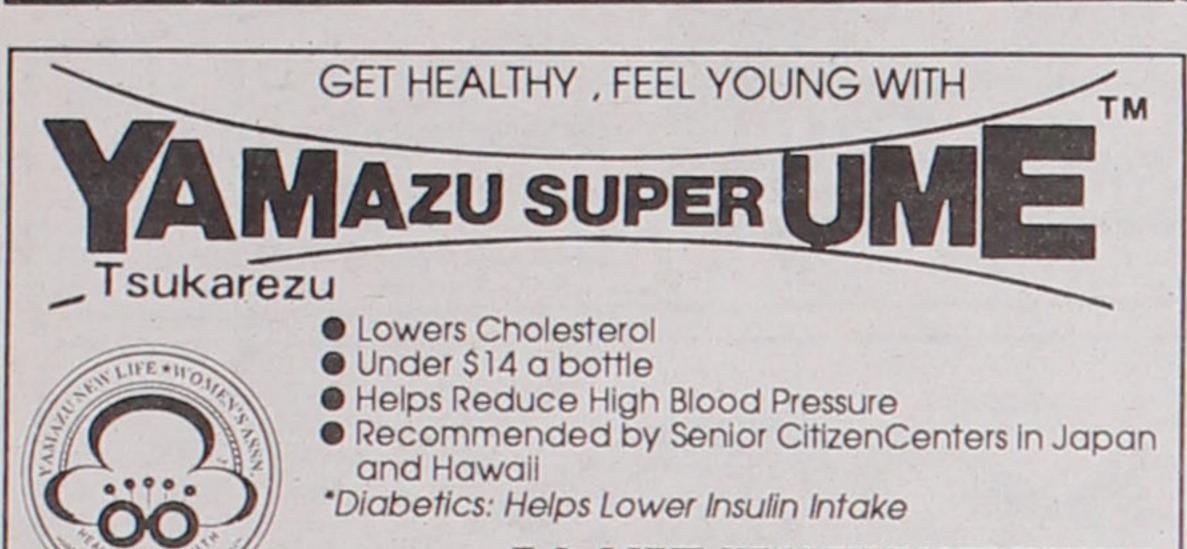




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TAKES

(Continued from page 4)

Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, is designed to improve the enforcement of anti-discrimination provisions of that act.

The bill, in effect, would increase penalties for discrimination and tighten the enforcement of antidiscrimination provisions. Provisions include:

- Requiring annual reports from the General Accounting Office and the Department of Justice regarding the enforcement of the anti-discrimination provisions of the law.
- Mandating technical assistance to states and local governments on employee sanction laws, and nondiscrimination laws and
- Creating formal federal/state coordination structures to facilitate enforcement.
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museum was dedicated Wednesday, Feb. 19, in Ontario, Ore.

of the anti-discrimination provi-

sions to disqualify them for a

federal contract for up to one year.

Oregon museum

The facility is part of a \$10 million cultural center to be build

on the campus of Treasure Valley Community College that is expected to be built in 18 to 24 months.

Keynote speaker for the ceremony held on the 50th anniversary of Executive Order 9066 was Cressey Nakagawa, JACL national president. Also on hand were Hid Hasegawa and Randy and Roberta Harano.

YOUTH

(Continued from page 3)

We recommend the following: • The National Youth Council be allocated an adequate budget to implement the youth program for action.

• The Vice President for Planning and Development take a more active role in assisting chapters to develop programming for youth and student members.

• The Vice President for Membership revise the JACL membership form to reflect the definitions of youth and student members stated in the national bylaws.

• Chapters and districts assume

greater responsibility and initiative in creating youth programs at the local level in accordance with the bylaws.

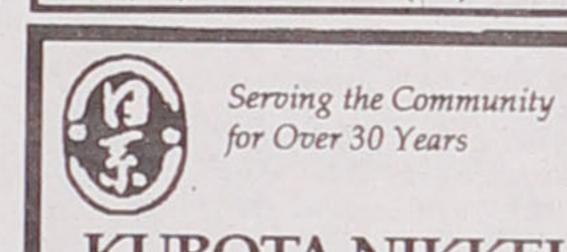
Chapters recruit a youth/student representative on their boards as a means to empower youth and student members within a given chapter. These chapter student/youth representatives will become the district youth council.

District provide more National Youth Council members with the materials and tools to establish contacts with potential new members (i.e., business cards, membership brochures, and NYC

brochures).

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Obituaries

EIICHI NAKAMA, 70

A veteran of Co. I, 442nd Infantry, he was born in Honolulu May 21, 1921, and passed away March 16 at his home, Los Angeles. Surviving are wife Guillermina, sons John, Michael, Daniel, daughters Cecilia, Cynthia Franco, Nancy Klerger, 11 grandchildren, 1 great-grandchildren. Final rites were conducted on Saturday, March 21, at Rose Hills Memorial Park, Whittier, Calif.

Eto, Rev. Mamoru, 109, Los Angeles, Feb. 16; Oita-born pioneer Holiness Church minister of 61 years, survived by 5 sons Ken (Illinois), Daniel (New Jersey), Joseph, Moses (Hawaii), David, 4 daughters Hitoko H. Eto, Mitsuko Marsh (Ohio), Mary Tachihara, Ruth Nishida (Saratoga), 15 grandchildren, 7 great-grandchildren.

Fujimoto, Masao Tom, 73, Gardena, Feb. 8; Hawaii-born, survived by wife Samiye, son Ted, daughters Nancy Smith (Torrance), Kazu Workman (La Crescenta), 2 grandchildren.

Morita, Toyokichi, 88, Sacramento, Jan. 30; Kochi-born, survived by wife Yukiko, sons Keiji, Toshiaki, daughters Miyoko Kaita, Mary Fukui, daughter-inlaw Yasuko Morita, brother Toyoharu, grandchildren.

Muramoto, George K., 68, Los Angeles, Feb. 10; Gardena-born, survived by wife Michiko, 3 daughters Karen Chow, Diane Nitta, Wendy, 4 brothers Masaji, Fred, Bill, Jimmie, and 2 sisters Doris Yamane, Masako Ihara.

Sonoda, William 'Piney', 62, Montebello, Feb. 21; Salt Lake City-born, survived by wife Kayko, sons Wayne, brothers Hideyo, Makoto (SLC), Frank, sisters Mary Stoddard (Florida), Masako (SLC), mother-in-law Yukii Matsumoto, sistersin-law Mariko Inouye, Nancy Matsuda.

Sumida, Makoto, 76, Fowler, Feb. 7; Honolulu-born, survived by wife Chiyoko, sons Michael, Glenn, Leslie, daughter Patricia Kishi.

Sugano, Yonee, 96, Los Angeles, Feb. 11; Wakayama-born, survived by son Shigehisa, daughters Miyoko Ikeda, Kikuye

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TEXTBOOKS

(Continued from page 5)

bers, and other decision-makers who select textbooks for the fu-

Last, but not least, this manual could be used as a means for curriculum reform Many educational agencies develop curriculum frameworks for local districts and teachers to follow. Such frameworks may affect how textbooks, resource guides, and supplemental materials such as books, films, and videos are used by teachers. For example, California's History-Social Science framework which

Peggy Mikuni

was adopted August, 1989, mandates teaching that the internment as a violation of civil rights. Through the efforts of the Honolulu Chapter, JACL, Hawaii recently passed legislation to mandate the development of statewide curriculum on the history of the internment for grades 5, 8, and high school, focusing on civil rights issues. If this manual can serve as a guide to improve curriculum frameworks, it will provide leadership in improving the content of textbooks, supplemental materials, and other instructional materials.

Good faith efforts

We are prepared to work in good faith with various decision-makers and policy-makers. Ideally, I would love to see an entire chapter in our textbooks on the constitutional issues raised by internment, another chapter on the role of the 442nd, a chapter on the economic history of immigration, and so forth. But I'm not naive, that may not be possible to achieve. As a committee, we are prepared to negotiate a reasonable solution with publishers and policy-makers.

On the other hand, we are not prepared to sell out. We will not accept nor endorse any materials which stress that camps were an act of military necessity. We will not accept any materials which fail to underscore the significance of redress and the apology Congress and President Reagan made to the Japanese American community. Nor will we accept any materials which fail to underscore the violation of Civil Rights which occurred to our community duruing World War II.

I've heard all the arguments against such an approach. For example, last year's controversy over the California State Department video focused on the issue of the availability of materials for classroom use and did not address the issue of supplemental materials teaching the internment as a violation of human rights as mandated by the state curriculum guidelines. "Something is better than nothing" was the rationale for supporters of the video. But 20 years ago, at San Lorenzo High School, we too had something: It was a passage riddled with inaccuracies. The effect of that one paragraph resulted in a closed conversation of four Asian American students talking about the event not in a classroom but in seclusion. What's worse, it left the impression with our classmates that the internment was justified.

Particularly in these times when Japan-bashing and other fgorms of racism are so rampant, that is not sound education. That is not how I want future students to view theinternment and other contributions Japanese Americans have made to this country. That is not how Asian American students should learn about the struggles of their predecessors.

I am proud of the courage of Fred Korematsu, Min Yasui, Gordon Hirabayashi, the efforts of the Nisei 442nd Infantry, and those who were interned. The Japanese American community's effort to secure an apology from the government for internment was a remarkable effort.

But let's wear that pride publicly and note hide it. There is an important story to be told in our schools for all students. Let us have an education system that embraces that sense of pride with teachers, students, and the community.

Dale Shimasaki is director of Research, Planning and Government Relations at San Francisco City College. He has also served as a consultant to the California Legislature on educational issues, and has been a research associate of the Public Finance Division of the Urban Institute in Washington, D.C.

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