



Pacific Citizen

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PSW takes stand
on L.A. amendments
—page 3

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Friday, May 29, 1992

Koreans, black gangs resolve to rebuild together

LOS ANGELES—Korean American storeowners and African American gang members announced May 25 plans to work together to develop ventures in African American communities, including hiring gang members at Korean-owned stores.

Members of the Korean American Grocers Association (KAGRO) met with gang leaders from both the Bloods and the Crips in a 2 1/2-hour closed door session.

Ideas for new ventures to rebuild South Central and other communities included:

- Selection of at least four gang members—two Bloods and two Crips—to work in managerial positions in Korean-owned businesses.

- Gang members would consider starting "Guardian Angel" style watches to guard neighborhood stores in Koreatown and South Central.

- A Korean-owned bank in South Los Angeles where it would be easier for residents to obtain loans.

- A joint agreement to foster cultural exchanges between Korean Americans and African Americans. This would include the marketing of T-shirts that would promote greater understanding.

Speaking to the Los Angeles Times, Yang Kim, president of KAGRO, said, "I have hope in this idea." (PC)

Mistrial called in police shooting of Samoans

COMPTON, Calif.—A mistrial was called May 18 in the trial of Compton, Calif., police officer Alfred Skiles, accused of involuntary manslaughter in the killing of two Samoan brothers during a domestic dispute call.

Superior Court Judge John Reid called the mistrial after the jury deadlocked 9-3 in favor of acquittal of Skiles. Skiles is accused of killing Pouvi Tualaualei, 34, and Itali Tualaualei, 22, after answering a call from Pouvi Tualaualei's wife reporting that she was being beaten by her husband. In the ensuing violence, Pouvi Tualaualei was shot 11 times, including eight times in the back, and Itali Tualaualei was shot eight times, five times in the back.

The police officer testified that he had been attacked just prior to the shootings. (PC)

Nagoya helps L.A. to rebuild

Nagoya, Japan, sister city to Los Angeles, has donated \$22,313.13 (three million yen) to help rebuild Los Angeles from the destruction of the recent riots.

Mayor Tom Bradley met with Nagoya officials May 8 to accept the contribution that will be earmarked for the Rebuild L.A. non-profit organization headed by Peter Ueberroth and created by the mayor. The check was accompanied by a letter from Takeyoshi Nishio, Nagoya mayor.

"During times of crisis, it is reassuring to hear from old friends," Bradley said. "Nagoya and Los Angeles have been sister cities since 1959. We have offered support to each other during trying times. I was deeply touched that the people of Nagoya would give us this generous gift of three million yen..." the mayor added.

The city has received some 6,000 inquiries and offers for assistance. (PC)

See TAKES/page 4



TOGETHERNESS—Jesse Jackson joins hands with Jerry Yu, left, and Debby Gee.



POSING—Jackson pauses for photo with Debby Gee.

A sermon for unity

School kids get lesson in cultures

By GWEN MURANAKA
Assistant editor

LOS ANGELES—Teaching rather than scolding, Warren Furutani, board president of the Los Angeles Unified School District, recently brought nori and manju to a sixth grade class that sent anti-Japanese pictures to Supervisor



FURUTANI

Gloria Molina during the height of the Metro Green Line controversy.

In a follow to a story that ran in PC in February, students of 66th Street Elementary School in South Central Los Angeles, found themselves in the middle of controversy after they sent pictures and letters urging Supervi-

See KIDS/page 4

How riots affected Los Angeles schools

Talking briefly about the L.A. riots and their affect on the schools, Furutani said, "On the first day back, Monday, we stopped doing business as usual, focusing instead on discussing what took place."

"We have crisis teams and human relations teams working on finding sources of friction in the schools. We're also working with outside groups focusing on multicultural work," said Furutani.

See SCHOOL/page 4

Jesse Jackson preaches togetherness message to Asian American groups

By GWEN MURANAKA
Assistant editor

LOS ANGELES—"Run, Jesse run. Run, Jesse run," exhorted a crowd of 600 after a rousing speech by Rev. Jesse Jackson May 19 at Little Tokyo's Japan America Theater. Sounding like a presidential candidate, Jackson called for empowerment of minorities through unity in the aftermath of the L.A. riots as he lashed out at the police, big business and the politics of the Reagan/Bush era.

Focusing on and channeling the anger and dread that surfaced following the Rodney King verdict, Jackson said, "Koreans were hurt and should not have been. Hispanics were hurt and should not have been. Blacks

See JACKSON/page 6

Sign up

Deadline for advance registration for the 32nd JACL biennial convention, Aug. 3-8, Denver, Colo., is June 25.

All registration and convention materials have been mailed to chapter presidents. After June 25, convention attendees must register on site.

Other deadlines:

- June 25: Youth student delegate hotel reservation forms are due to the Mile-Hi Chapter.

- July 2: Adult delegate hotel reservation forms due to the Sheraton Denver Tech Center. (PC)



ALVINA LEW

Class of the field

Athletes were honored at the 14th annual Asian Pacific American Heritage Month dinner May 20 in Los Angeles. Singled out for achievements were, from left, Scott Fuji, tae kwando; Bill Wong, keynote speaker; Khoa Nguyen, table tennis; Wei Wang, table tennis; Rick Noji, track and field (high jump); Diana Gee, table tennis; Jimmy Kim, tae kwando; Kristi Yamaguchi, Olympic gold medal winner in figure skating; Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley; Natasha Kuchicki, figure skating; Eric Sato, volleyball; Gary Sato, accepting for Liane Sato, volleyball; and Glenn Fujimoto, special Olympics, aquatics. Event proceeds will be donated to the Los Angeles Hate Violence Response Alliance group that responds to hate crimes.




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PSW takes position on L.A. amendments

The Pacific Southwest District Council of the Japanese American Citizens League has announced its positions on two Los Angeles charter amendments.

The district supports for Charter Amendment F and opposes Charter Amendment G, both slated for the June 2 ballot in Los Angeles.

Charter Amendment F
Charter Amendment F is a police reform measure allowing for greater citizen oversight of the police department, the strengthening of the function and authority of the board of police commissioners, and the selection, removal and tenure of the chief of police while limiting the tenure to two consecutive five year terms.

This amendment is largely in response to the beating of Rodney King by L.A. police officers and subsequent calls for reform. Carol Kawamoto, PSW governor, said, "We must work toward police reform as recommended in the Christopher Commission Report and fully support Charter Amendment F."

Charter Amendment G
The Los Angeles City council identified the loss of jobs as the most serious problem facing the

city. "However, the 'Local Preference and Domestic Content Requirement' for all city purchases as delineated in this amendment, is a misguided solution to the problem" stated Trisha Murakawa, chair of the PSW JAACL Civil Rights Caucus. "Charter Amendment G neglects to define the 'domestic content' requirement, thus leaving open the opportunity for arbitrary and discriminatory interpretations. The implications of this are clearly serious and far-reaching for all Asian and Pacific Islander communities."

PSW also stated that it believes that the economic crisis facing our country has, in large part, been blamed specifically on Japan, which has correspondingly triggered an increase in anti-Asian violence and the rise of "Buy American" hype.

PSW urges elected officials to create a legitimate program for economic development that will recharge our economy, while also creating and retaining jobs for the people of Los Angeles, rather than accepting unknown consequences of "domestic content" requirements and the simplistic propaganda of "Buy American" campaigns. (C)

Richard Murakami named Nisei Week grand marshal

LOS ANGELES—Richard M. Murakami, California's assistant commissioner of corporations in the Department of Corporations, was recently announced as the Grand



MURAKAMI


Marshal for the 1992 Nisei Week Japanese Festival, according to Steve Okayama, 1992 general chairman.

Nisei Week, held in Little To-


kyo, will begin Saturday, August 1st and run through Sunday, Aug. 9. The Nisei Week Parade is scheduled to begin at 3 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 2 in Little Tokyo.

Murakami, as assistant commissioner, is responsible for administration of state laws on escrow, credit unions and bill payers. Beyond his work with the state, Murakami is president of the National Association of State Credit Union Supervisors and was twice president of the Uptown Los Angeles Optimist Club and is associated with the Nagoya Sister City Affiliation. He also was a member of the Nisei Week board of directors from 1977 to 1988. (C)

BUILD!



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Short takes

(Continued from page 1)

Chapter sponsors children's school

GARDEN GROVE, Calif.—The Selanoco chapter of the JACL is sponsoring Chibi no Gakko, a special two-week session to teach Nikkei children about their cultural heritage.

Running July 20-30, organizer B.J. Watanabe said Chibi no Gakko is about, "Bringing Japanese American children together and giving them the opportunity to learn about their heritage and develop their JA identity is our main goal."

Registration: \$75 per child for the two week session which runs Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to noon, July 20-30. Location: Wintersburg Presbyterian Church, 13711 Fairview, Garden Grove. Information and applications: B.J. Watanabe 714/779-4140.

Enrollment is limited, with JACL members' children and grandchildren receiving first priority.

'Comfort women' stories in Japan army

TOKYO—Nine Japanese and South Korean citizen groups opened a hotline in January to gather stories from Imperial Japanese Army veterans on their experiences with "comfort women" during World War II. Most of the women came from Korea and were forced to work in military brothels in China, Japan, New Guinea, Indonesia and the Philippines, according to the group which set up the hotline.

And after Prime Minister Miyazawa's February visit to South Korea, the Japanese government expressed its willingness to compensate Korean women who were mobilized for forced prostitution.

Historian seeks Santa Fe internees

LOS LUNAS, N.M.—Richard Melzer, Ph.D., assistant professor of history at the University of New Mexico-Valencia Campus, 280 La Entrada, Los Lunas, NM 87031, is researching the WWII Japanese American internment camp in Santa Fe, N.M., and hopes any former internees willing to be interviewed about their experiences will contact him.

Melzer indicated he has completed his research at the National Archives and interviewed the camp commander.

'94 Convention committee selected

SALT LAKE CITY — Floyd Mori will serve as chairman of the 1994 JACL National Convention with Tom Shimizu as assistant and Shake Ushio as advisor, all Mount Olympus JACLers. The National JACL Board has decided upon the Salt Lake City Marriott Hotel as the site. The dates in August, 1994, have not been confirmed.

Mori, currently national JACL vice president on public affairs and one-time California state assemblyman, is engaged in U.S.-Japan trade.

Monterey history project announced

MONTEREY, Calif.—A composite history of the Japanese on Monterey Peninsula has been announced as a chapter project with Dr. David Yamada as coordinator.

Its committee met last fall with other community groups to evaluate a tentative table of contents covering the period from the 1900s when the first Issei settled in the region. The Rev. Heihachiro

Takarabe, who has done extensive oral history interviews, shared his expertise.

The project is being supported by the Community Foundation for Monterey Peninsula, which tendered a matching grant of \$3,500 toward the preliminary budget of \$7,650. The grant becomes available upon members and friends contributing a like amount, it was added. The committee plans to publish 500 copies.

SCHOOLS

(Continued from page 1)

All schools in the Los Angeles Unified School District were closed for two days following the onset of the riots. Some community leaders questioned the decision to close schools during the riots, the board president said it was a decision that they "weighed very heavily."

"We are a stabilizing force in every community. So we've been working to bring some normalcy to the communities hard hit," said Furutani.

Furutani mentioned with some

pride that the first day back to school saw very high attendance rates among both faculty and students as both groups work to get past the riots.

"I think people did see that school was a bit of an oasis and a safe zone. It's the best place to be," said Furutani. (PC)

KIDS

(Continued from page 1)

sor Molina to rescind the Sumitomo contract to build Metro Green Line cars. While the contract was rescinded, the "buy America" fervor that ensued caused concern within the Japanese American community about racial scapegoating. Supervisor Molina spoke to the children about racial tolerance shortly after she received the pictures, but Furutani chose to wait until after the furor had died down and use the time as a chance to educate.

"The focus of my response wasn't concerned about politics, but education. So I went to the school during Asian Pacific Heritage month to teach about sharing a different culture and learning about different people," said Furutani.

"I didn't bring up the issue of

Japan bashing, I brought up Japan as a people and a country." Furutani said the students were curious about the Japanese foods that he brought along with him and he used their curiosity to teach tolerance of other cultures. Noting that the response to nori was "mixed," Furutani said, "When you're confronted with something different, you prejudge it. That's the same thing with people, you prejudge them without getting to meet them."

"With the manju, they thought it was very beautiful, they're very attracted to it. I used it to talk about differences we have. You need to try it and taste it before you judge something. With people, you have to get to know them," said Furutani.

The board president's visit took on greater meaning as Los Ange-


les struggles towards recovery following the riots. The elementary school is situated in the middle of where much of the devastation took place and tensions between different ethnic groups still lingers. "Looking at what was originally the genesis of the controversy, the riots really expanded the agenda," said Furutani. He took his time with the kids to talk not only about Japan but about greater cultural awareness of all Asian cultures.

Furutani pointed out to the class, many of whom are Latino, that Cinco de Mayo and the Japanese holiday, Children's Day, were on the same day. "I shared with them what we do during Children's Day, and told them about other Asian celebrations — the focus was that we are all people," said Furutani. (PC)

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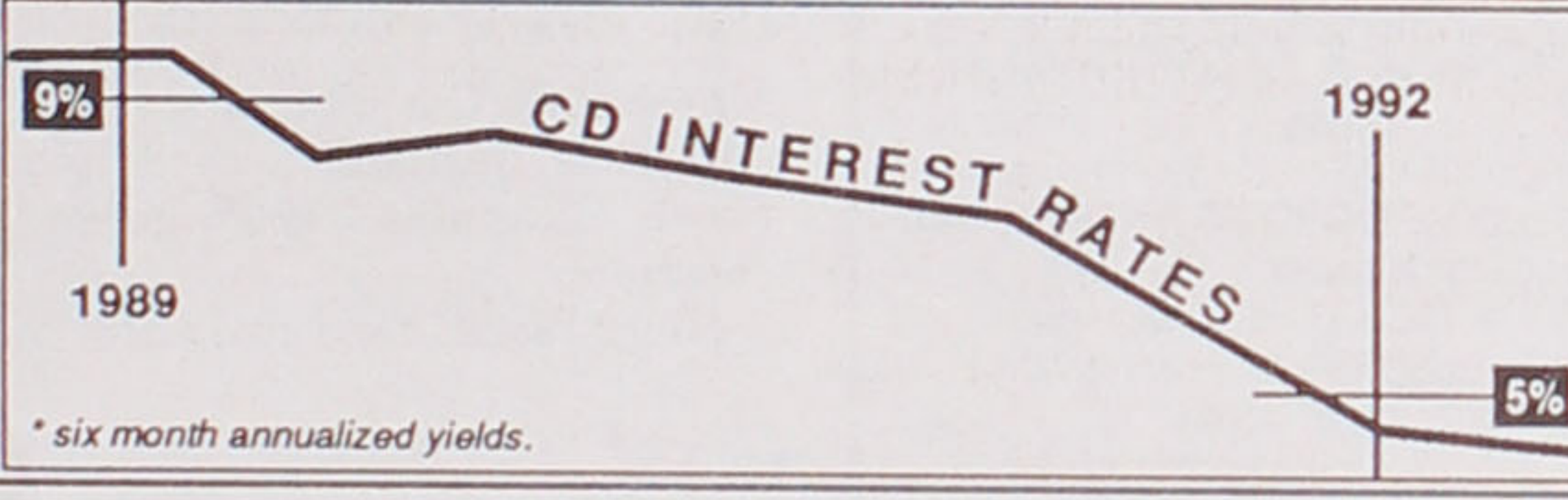
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Personally speaking

• Hawaii Gov. John Waihee named his first deputy attorney general, Corrine Watanabe, 41, to the intermediate court of appeals, the highest judicial appointment he has made of a woman judge.

• Cal State-Los Angeles's School of Natural and Social Sciences honored Lillian Kawasaki (B.S., zoology '72; M.S., biology '80), of Fountain Valley with its Distinguished Alumnus Award at the 22nd annual alumni awards banquet April 2 on campus.

les. She was also the first woman appointed to manager by the Harbor Department.

• California Assemblywoman Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-56th Dist., Los Angeles) introduced Toshiko Okamoto of Boyle Heights as one of four Women of the Year from her district at the state assembly.

HONORS

• The Little Tokyo nutrition program for the elderly, Koreisha Chushoku Kai, honored three men for their community work: Paul

Oda of Union Church of Los Angeles; Shogo Suzuki of Suzuki Enterprises, and Eddie Okita of Okita Electronics. The latter two each donated vans, used in the escort service and delivering hot meals to home-bound seniors, it was announced by Emi Yamaki, director. KCBS-TV news anchor Tritia Toyota exceeded the 16th anniversary celebration held April 5 in Montebello where the honors were bestowed.

• Roger Obata of Toronto (a long-time P.C. subscriber in Canada) received the National Association of Japanese Canadian's Biennial National Award for "five decades (of effort and leadership) on behalf of the NAJC and many other human rights causes that have brought respect, honour and visibility to all JC's."

His successful campaign for JC redress as a member of the NAJC negotiating team with the government and being conferred the Order of Canada in 1990 (Canada's top civilian honor) were also cited.

Biz notes

• MINORITY SUPPORT—Pacific Gas and Electric Company reported it spent approximately \$251 million with minority- and women-owned business enterprises in 1991, an increase of \$84.9 million, or 51.1 percent, over 1990 spending.

Of the 23 percent total expenditures in 1991, \$138.5 million, or 12.8 percent, went to minority businesses, and \$112.4 million, or 10.2 percent, went to woman-owned businesses. The company did business with more than 3,346 minority- or women-owned businesses in 1991, or 34 percent of the firms that provide goods and services purchased by the utility.

• NEW ADDRESS—Pacific Business Bank has relocated its Gardena Regional Office to the Gateway Plaza Center, 1451 West Artesia Blvd., Gardena, Calif. The facility includes two merchant booths, safe deposit boxes, ATM

machines, as well as a night depository, according to C. Glen Higuchi, president.

Pacific Business Bank is headquartered in Carson, Calif.

• NEW GUY—Kyoichi "Kris" Aoyama has been named executive director of Russell Reynolds Associates, Inc., an international executive recruitment organization. Aoyama, who will be based in the Los Angeles and San Francisco offices, will serve as an executive recruitment link between the U.S. and Japan.

Prior to joining Russell Reynolds, Aoyama served as president of Boston Scientific, Inc. in Tokyo, and was president of an international strategic alliance consulting firm based in New York.

• THOUGHT FOR FOOD—Pr ego Ristorante of Beverly Hills, Calif., has created a special menu of its Italian dishes in Japanese

for its growing number of Japanese patrons. According to Roberto Rossi, general manager, "Every day, at least five to 10 percent of our customers are Japanese."

• ASIAN EXPANSION—Rent-A-Wreck has announced a nationwide plan to make its used car rental franchises more accessible to Asian entrepreneurs. The plan calls for a change in philosophy from seeking franchises in high traffic airport and inner-city locations to focusing on Asian residential neighborhoods.

Says J. Richard Haigh, president and CEO, the program "is a commitment to expanding business ownership opportunities in Japanese communities. By reducing the initial investment and increasing post-purchase incentives of our franchisees, we're helping people to help themselves and support the communities in which they live." (PC)

Reunions

Gila River Canal Camp: July 31-Aug. 2, Fresno, Calif. Contact: James Yamamoto, 2253 S. Temperance, Fresno, CA 93725 (209/264-7924) or Yo Misaki, 8128 S. Bethel, Selma, CA 93662 (209/896-2605).

Gila River Camp II: Oct. 3-4, 1992, Radisson Phoenix Airport Hotel, Phoenix, Ariz. Program: banquet, karaoke, resident testimonies, raffles, etc. Information: Helen Mishima, 576-B, Manele Lane, Hilo, HI, 96720.

Greater Kitsilano Reunion: Oct. 3, Japanese Canadian Cultural Center, Don Mills, Toronto. Contact: (U.S.) Henry Minoru Yamamura, (818) 892-7536; (Canada) Chas. Shimizu, 25 Brampton Rd., Weston, Ontario M9R 3J3, (416) 247-8248. (June 30 deadline).

Heart Mountain Reunion VI: Sept. 11-13, SeaTac Red Lion Hotel, Seattle, Wash. Contact: Gilbert Inaba (206/364-3594).

HomeComing '92: Oct. 9-11, Hotel Vancouver, Vancouver, B.C.; contact: National Association of Japanese Canadians, 782 Corydon Ave., Winnipeg, Man., Canada, R3M 0Y1 (604) 681-5222.

Placer County H.S. Nisseki Alumni: Sept. 19-20. For all graduates and former students of Placer Union, Del Oro, Lincoln, Roseville and Oakmount High Schools. Call: Tomio Masaki (916/456-2595), Akio Seo (916/443-7746), or Grace Miyamoto (916/421-2788).

Santa Maria H.S. Class of 1942: May 16 (tentative); calling for names & addresses. Contact: Betty Fletcher, 200 E. Morrison, Santa Maria, CA 93454, (805) 925-4503.

Stockton Assembly Center 50th Year: Sept. 4-7, Stockton, Calif., co-sponsored by Stockton and Lodi JACL chapters; registration, P.O. Box 691473, Stockton, CA 95269. Early hotel reservation advised: LaQuinta Inn (800) 531-5900; Lodi Motor Inn (209) 334-6422.

Tacoma Reunion: Aug. 7-9, Tacoma, Wash., Friday Memorial services at Buddhist Church and Whitney Methodist Church, Saturday dinner Sheraton Hotel, 1320 Broadway Plaza. Call: Tadaye Fujimoto Kawasaki, 132 Berkeley, Tacoma 98466, (206) 564-9485 or 272-5924 eve.

Topaz 50th Year: Sept. 4-6, Hyatt Regency, Burlingame, Calif. Contact: Sumi Ozawa Sugihara / Bill Mizono, 2673 Dodge Ave., Pinole, CA 94564.

Poston I, II, III 50th Anniversary Reunion: Oct. 5-7, Laughlin, Nevada; Oct. 6 - monument dedication at Poston Camp main entrance, barbecue lunch, Colorado Indian Tribes Hq, Parker.

Poston II at Sam's Town Gold River, (800) /835-7904; Co-chair: Kiyo Sato Viacrucis (916/363-6884), Hannah Satow (916) 362-0309, George Okl Sr., P.O. Box 277188, Sacramento, CA 95827, (916/383-5665, ext

200; fax 916/383-1053); Souvenir booklet material and memorial ads from \$25 to \$100 full page to Oscar Satow, 3326 Eisenhower Dr., Sacramento, CA 95826.

Salt Lake City's all-Davis High School Alumni: Oct. 10—Little America Hotel, 500 S. Main St. (800-453-9450), Information: Reunion dinner reservation \$30 and booklet material ASAP to George Hirabayashi, 3042 South 1000 West, Syracuse, UT 84075 (801) /773-2285).

San Francisco's Washington High School, 35th anniversary Classes of 1956-57—July 18, Cathedral Hill Hotel, San Francisco. Information: Esther Schwartz LaPedis (S'57), 126 Santa Paula Dr., Daly City, CA 94015.

UC Berkeley Class of 1942's 50th anniversary: Convocation—Sept. 15 (tentative); when traditionally, the 50th reunion class leads the procession into the Greek Theater; Dr. Harvey A. Itano, '42, University Medalist, was invited by the Chancellor, Chang-Lin Tien, to represent his Japanese American classmates, upon recommendation of Stephen Nakashima of San Jose, current Regent of the University.) California Japanese American Alumni Big Game reunion—Nov. 21, Holiday Inn, Emeryville. Information: CJAAA, Mo Noguchi, P.O. Box 15235, San Francisco, CA 94115-0235, (415) /499-1666).

The Environmental Schools CANADA. BAHFF, ALBERTA • YARMOUTH, NOVA SCOTIA. Environmental studies program set in the Canadian Rockies and along the Bay of Fundy. Topics include: Alpine meadow hikes, whale watches, astronomy, etc. Dormitory and camping and Alpine hikes 6/22-8/31/92. 7-day (\$350) and 10-day (\$500). The Environmental Schools P.O. Box 899 Banff, Alberta T0L 0C0 Duane Bond Director Phone/Fax: 207-934-4064

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Small kid time

SMALL KID TIME ENTER AT YOUR OWN RISK. DARREN, IS YOUR ROOM CLEANED UP YET? UH... (Illustration of a messy room with a boy looking at it.)

Gwen Muranaka

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Opinions



From the frying pan

BILL HOSOKAWA

Letters from Camp Shelby finally delivered

Several months ago this column carried the story of Jim Remsen and a letter he found in a box of odds and ends he picked up at an estate sale. The letter was written in 1943 by Cpl. Senji Sugawara serving with the 442nd Regimental Combat Team in Camp Shelby, Miss. It was addressed to his sister Isayo in Honolulu.

It was a writing-home type of letter with chit-chat about family and maneuvers. Remsen, who himself had been a captain with the Sixth Armored Division in Europe, undertook some research. He found that Senji Sugawara, by then a sergeant, had been killed in France, ironically after surviving the bitter battle to rescue the Lost Battalion. Now, more than ever, Remsen was anxious to return the letter to Senji's family if there was one.

I wrote about Remsen and the letter in hopes that someone could tell us about the Sugawaras. Things began to happen.

Yasuo Hirano of Costa Mesa, Calif., wrote to say that Sugawara's first name had been listed as Kenji in reference books but the correct name was Senji.

Dick Hayashi of Stockton said Senji had

served under him when Hayashi was supply officer of the 442nd's Company K. Hayashi suggested that I write to Paul Okamura in Kalaheo, Hawaii, who came from the same island as Sugawara.

Bud Smyser, contributing editor of the Honolulu *Star-Bulletin* could find nothing in the newspaper library so he sent the inquiry on to Grace Okamura, executive secretary of the 442nd Veterans Club in Honolulu. Hayashi also had suggested this source.

Eventually she wrote back. Isayo Sugawara was deceased but Senji's younger brother, Yoshito, was living in Waimea, Hawaii. We were getting closer.

Yoshito Sugawara's response to my inquiry arrived the other day. Yes, he said, he was Senji's brother. As a matter of fact, Yoshito had served with the 100th Battalion and had gone overseas a year before Senji did. He said so far as he knew, Senji's letter to his sister Isayo had never been delivered and he wondered whether Isayo had subsequent contact with Senji prior to his death 11 months after the letter was mailed.

Yoshito's letter told a little about the

family. There were seven Sugawara siblings. Isayo was the eldest, followed by Senji. There are only two of them left, Yoshito who was the youngest and is now 73, and a sister living in Honolulu. But there were some nephews and nieces, including Alan Sugawara who is a professor at Oregon State University, and obviously they would be pleased to be in touch with a relative, no matter how remotely.

Remsen had another surprise for the Sugawaras. Digging deeper into the box, he had uncovered two more letters to Isayo. One was a neatly typed letter from Senji dated Aug. 15, 1943. Among other things it said Yoshito—"the baby of the family and he's going to the actual front...I'm proud of him and the rest of the outfit,"—had left Shelby with the 100th for shipment overseas.

The other was a letter that Yoshito himself had written to his sister. A few days ago I put the three letters in their original envelopes inside another envelope and mailed it to Yoshito Sugawara in Waimea. This time, I hope they reach their destination. The letters will bring pain, I'm sure, but bittersweet memories, too. ☐

JACKSON

(Continued from page 1)

were hurt and should not have been. There's enough pain to go around. We've got to pick up the pieces and turn pain into power."

"This wasn't about black and Korean. It goes deeper than that. Mr. Denney was white. The Broadway Savings and Loan was black. Rage does not have eyes really. As we seek to build and heal, let's reach out to each other. Let's go another way."

At times during Jackson's speech, many in the audience chanted and cheered with a fervor similar to a church revival meeting. Joining Jackson onstage was a diverse group of community leaders including: Jerry Yu, executive director, Korean American Coalition, who introduced Jackson; Evelyn Yoshimura, Unity L.A.; Tosh Terasawa, president of the JACCC board of directors and longtime Jackson supporter radio personality Casey Kaseem.

Jackson, promoting the ideals of his Rainbow Coalition, said, "Our being ignorant of each other and afraid of each other and violent toward each other is learned behavior. We've got to unlearn those wicked lessons. While some others have prospered from the gulfs and the cliffs, we must build the bridges because we know better and because it's right."

While much of the focus of the address was on the aftermath of the Rodney King verdict, Jackson showed obvious outrage at the recent mistrial in the shooting deaths of two Samoan brothers in Compton by a police officer. "Today a jury said it was 'hung' as two Samoans were shot to death 19 times in their yard?" Noting that he met the mother of the two Samoan brothers who were killed, Jackson said about the recent mistrial, "That jury being hung was as absurd as the King jury hanging him. It's still about hanging, it's about injustice and it's still unfair."

The reverend strongly criticized the police calling brutality a "disease." He had particularly strong words for Los Angeles Police Chief Daryl Gates, blaming Gates for the slow response at Florence and Normandie which may have contributed to the beating of truck driver Reginald Denney. Jackson received an ovation when he said, "L.A. and America deserve more than Daryl Gates. He must go quickly. Quickly."

Speaking specifically to Japanese Americans, Jackson talked about the internment camps and the importance of remembering what happened. "Stripped of pride and property while neighbors came and looked at their woe. Concentration camps built with U.S. tax dollars. All of that happened while the most decorated unit in World War II was the Nisei fighting unit."

Jackson, admitting that he did not hear about the internment in all his years of schooling, said, "As we glorify the skating skills of Kristi Yamaguchi, her mother was born in one of those concentration camps. America must not be allowed to forget and you must not let them."

Jackson said it was time to reinvest in America and cut military spending. He derided the "economic strip mining" of the eighties and blamed big business for sending jobs to foreign countries.

Giving the example of Bush's trip to Japan in January, Jackson, describing the delegation, called them, "Twenty-three white male multimillionaires above 60 took a trip on public transportation to Japan." On Bush's call for "jobs, jobs, jobs," Jackson, lampooning the delegation, said, "We want jobs! We demand goals, targets, time tables and quotas. What? Twenty-three all white male multimillionaires went to Japan demanding from Japan international affirmative action. Bush was so embarrassed by the contradiction, he got tripped up on spaghetti."

Jackson, adopting an "us versus them" tone, said minorities have to unite and move beyond current racial tension or they will continue to be subjugated to the cheers of the audience. "Korean Americans don't look back, regroup and move on. African Americans, Hispanics, Asian Americans, Jewish Americans, Arab Americans, it's time to forgive and redeem and move on."

Co-sponsoring the event were the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, the National Coalition for Redress/Reparations and Unity L.A. Other sponsoring organizations included: JACL, Alliance for Asian Pacific Labor, Asian Pacific American Legal Center, Japanese American Bar Association, Korean American Coalition, Korean American Bar Association and Organization of Chinese Americans. Honorary chairswere Mayor Tom Bradley, Councilman Michael Woo, and L.A. School Board President Warren Furutani. ☐



East Wind

BILL MARUTANI

In memoriam: Arlington Cemetery

FOR MANY MEMORIAL holidays, the Washington D.C. Chapter, JACL, has sponsored, planned and carried out a solemn ceremony of remembrance at Arlington National Cemetery. Following a brief graveside program, those assembled are delegated to place fresh flowers at graves of nearly 40 Nikkei servicemen whose last resting places are scattered throughout some 15 large sections of the cemetery grounds. Although I write "Nikkei," two are "haoles" as our Hawaiian brethren would affectionately refer to them; one is Colonel Virgil R. Miller, CO of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the other is Navyman Joseph Harrington, author of the book "Yankee Samurai."

D.C. CHAPTER PRESIDENT Key Kobayashi has been assembling names of Nikkei interred, and each year adds new names. From the list of thousands buried at Arlington, it is no easy task to locate and tabulate Nikkei names. . . . Nonetheless, Key has prepared and distilled such a name list, with data as to the section in which each is buried, grave number, with a grid reference to a map on the reverse side. On

the grid map is a circled "X" showing where each grave is located. Each name also lists the rank and notation of military service.

A well organized collation by a well organized person.

I WAS PRIVILEGED to participate in the placement of a graveside bouquet and off I went to section 64, as it turned out, to a far corner of the cemetery grounds. It was the gravesite of Master Sergeant Kaname Matsuura, a veteran of WW2, Korea and Vietnam. I noted from the headstone marker that his birthdate was Nov. 9, 1920 and his date of death March 2, 1984. I did not know Sergeant Matsuura, where he came from, who his family members were, etc. I took a picture of his gravesite and if a family member should read this, just get in touch with me and it will be my pleasure to send the recent snapshot.

AFTER THIS PHASE of Memorial Day services, a group had lunch at the Ft. Meyers Officers' Club (arranged by M.I.S. retired Lt. Col. Ben Obata) where the buffet tables were generously loaded with a wide variety of dishes, as much as one wished and as often as one wished. After a

leisurely brunch repast, the group then proceeded to the Tomb of the Unknowns to witness not only the changing of the guards but in particular to witness the laying of the JACL wreath. The visit to this place is always a sobering, emotional experience, no matter how many times one may have observed the ceremony. With bugle "taps" being sounded and the last sad note echoing out toward the Potomac River, well . . .

THIS MEMORIAL DAY wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns was a particularly impressive and proud one for us, for the Nikkei were represented by uniformed Major General James H. Mukoyama Jr. (USAR), who, along with his charming wife, came from his native Chicago to participate in this solemn ceremony. The General also shared some remarks at the graveside ceremonies earlier that day.

A different individual gravesite of a Nikkei buried is selected each year as the ceremonial site. The spring weather did not disappoint with its sunny countenance. If you can, come join the proceedings next Memorial Day. ☐

