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Friday, October 16, 1992

Trial set for man accused in death of Vietnamese

The trial against Bradley Mills, 19, one of the seven men currently charged with second degree murder of Luyen Phan Nguyen, was scheduled to begin in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., with pretrial motions set for Oct. 12. According to the National Network Against Anti-Asian Violence, the jury selection process was scheduled to begin Wednesday afternoon, Oct. 14. The trial is expected to last at least one week in half-day afternoon sessions.

Nguyen, a premed student at the University of Miami, was allegedly chased and beaten to death at Coral Gables, Fla., Aug. 17, by a crowd of party-goers after he objected to being called "gook," "chink," and "Viet Cong," and other racial slurs.

Mills is from Tamarac, Fla. He has a previous arrest record of grand theft auto, aggravated assault and aggravated battery, and possession of alcohol by a minor, reported the National Network Against

Anti-Asian Violence.

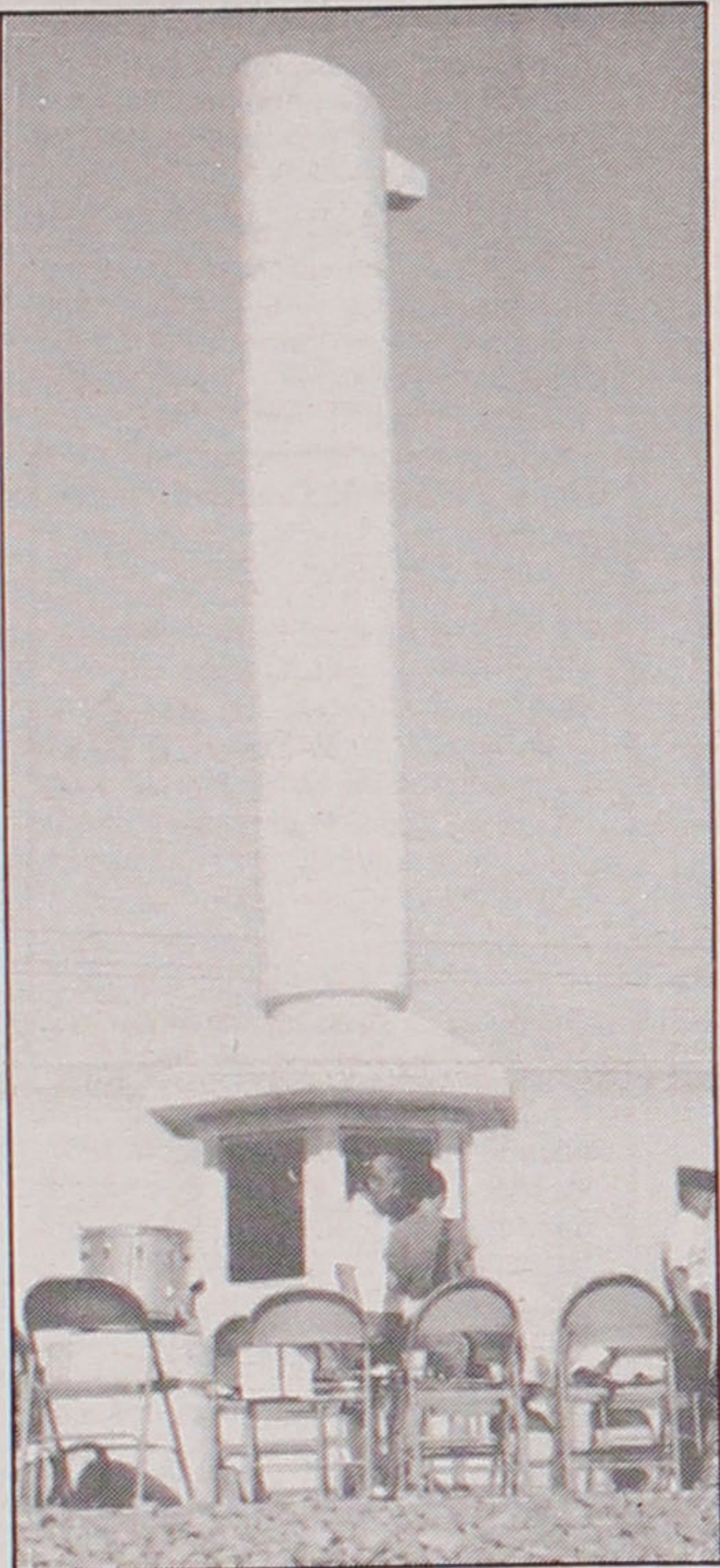
The other six defendants have indicated that they want to be tried together.

At the bail hearing on Sept. 1, R.H. (Bo) Hitchcock, the attorney for Mills, argued that Mills had not participated in the fatal part of Nguyen's beating.

The lawyer claimed that Mills suffered from post traumatic stress syndrome resulting from injuries he received as a child when he was struck by a car and acciden-

tally shot in the neck.

Coral Springs detective James Milford had testified at the bail hearing that Mills accosted Nguyen outside the party, asked him if he "had a problem," then yelled up to some friends on a second floor balcony for help. Detective Milford testified that Mills was the second or third person to strike Nguyen, that Mills was part of the mob that chased Nguyen and that Mills beat Nguyen again after Nguyen fell to the ground.



STANDING TALL—Poston monument gets first viewing by former internees.

2,000 gather to help dedicate Poston memorial

By HARRY K. HONDA
Editor emeritus

POSTON — As oppressive as an Arizona desert sun can be at noon in early October, it did not deter nearly 2,000 people from around the country (and Bert Fujii, Poston I, Tokyo) from dedicating "a monument to stand in time as a reminder of the tragic episode which occurred during the years of 1942 through 1945." (There were six being treated in the adjoining firehouse and one Nikkei was hospitalized, as announced over the PA system.)

The lesson of the Japanese American evacuation and internment experience was loud and clear in the opening message by chairman Daniel Eddy Jr., of the

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Side notes

● Videotape — An edited VHS tape of the Poston dedication, "A Question of Loyalty," will be available at a nominal fee to be announced from Emiko Omori, 24 Bessie St., San Francisco, CA, 94110. Film will weave interviews, archival photos, film footage, camp life and current images of campsite

See NOTES/page 4

Supreme Court dismisses Jacobs redress lawsuit

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Japanese American Citizens League ("JACL") today reacted favorably to the U.S. Supreme Court's rejection Oct. 5 of a legal challenge to the Civil Liberties Act of 1988. The Court summarily refused to consider a petition for review filed by Arthur Jacobs seeking to have the Civil Liberties Act declared unconstitutional.

Jacobs, a German American, filed a class action lawsuit seeking to enjoin the U.S. Department of Justice from carrying out the Civil Liberties Act, which, among other things, provided for an apology and individual payment of \$20,000 to approximately 80,000 Japanese Americans subjected to exclusion and internment during World War II. Jacobs' suit alleged that failure by the government to make similar payments to German Americans violated his constitutional right to equal protection of the laws

Named as defendant in the lawsuit was the U.S. Department of Justice, which defended the case. Submitting a friend of the court brief against the lawsuit were 17 individual Japanese American payees and the Japanese American Citizens League. Attorneys for the amicus group were the Asian Law Caucus of San Francisco; Willard Tom of the law firm Sutherland, Asbill and Brennan, Washington, D.C.; Robert Rusky of the law firm Hanson, Bridgett, Marcus and Vlahos, San Francisco; Karen Kai of San Francisco; and Dale Minami of the law firm Minami, Lew Tamaki and Lee, San Francisco.

Hailing the court's decision, Dennis Hayashi, national director of the JACL, and one of the attorneys who signed the amicus brief, stated that "the actions of the Supreme Court, once and for all, legally validates the government's efforts to redress one of the most significant deprivations of constitutional freedoms. The Supreme Court's rejection of Jacobs' petition is particularly important in that acceptance of the case for hearing might have delayed final redress payments. Such a delay, however, is no longer an issue."

Washington, D.C., monument for Nikkei okayed by Senate

The Senate passed House Joint Resolution 271 authorizing the erection of Nikkei monument in Washington, D.C., on Wednesday, Oct. 7. The resolution was introduced in the House by Rep. Norman Y. Mineta (D-Calif.) with a companion resolution being simultaneously introduced in the Senate by Sen. Daniel K. Inouye (D-Hawaii).

Focusing primarily on the World War II period, the proposed monument seeks to pay tribute to the spirit of Nikkei commitment — Issei as well as Nisei, civilian as well as military, Hawaii and the mainland.

"The memorial recognized the sacrifices of American men, women and children of Japanese ancestry who were unjustly categorized, evacuated and interned during World War II, and to their steadfast patriotic support of the United States, its people and government that took their basic rights as Americans without reasonable cause," said Mineta.

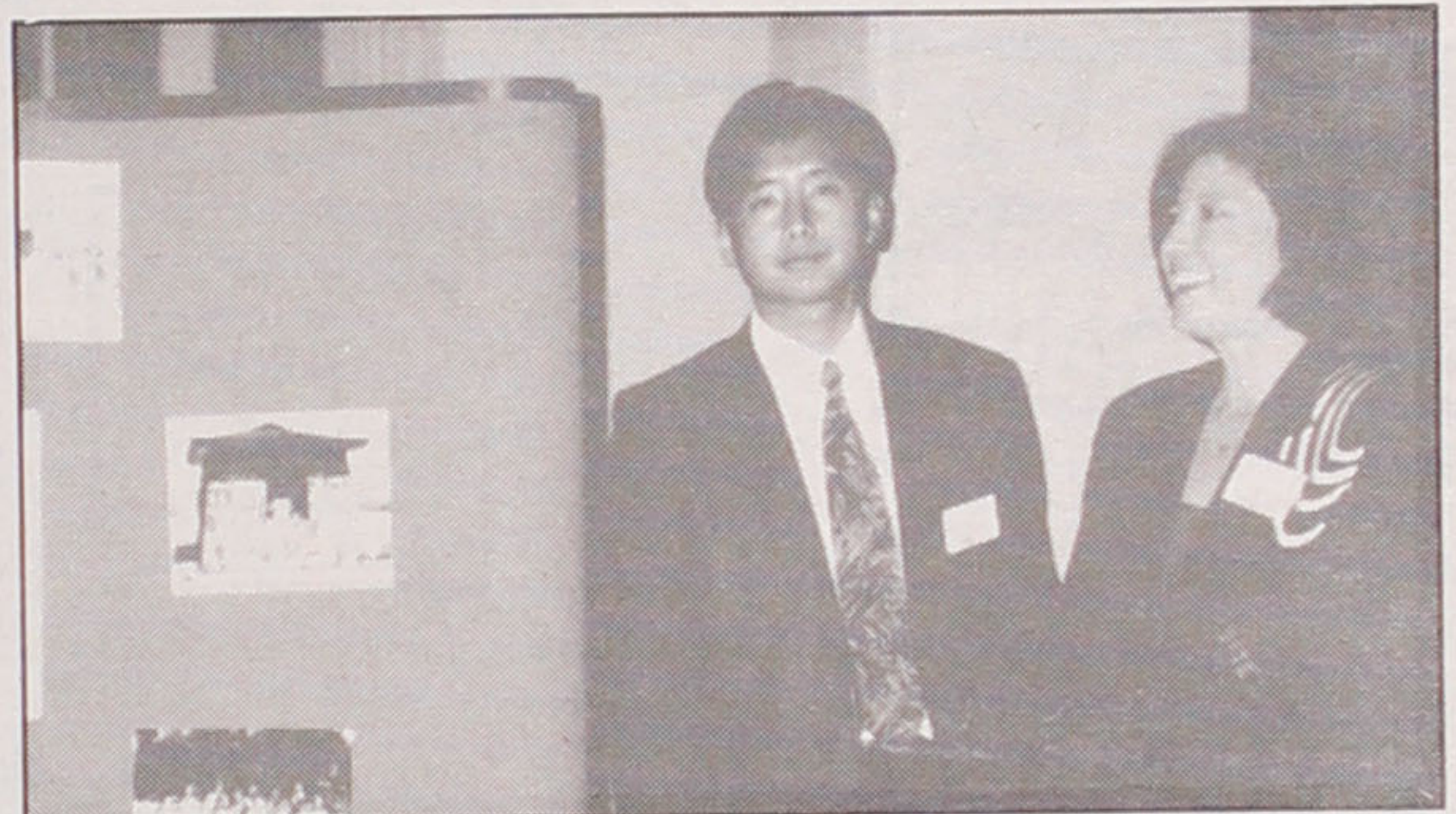
The Washington, D.C., monument project is sponsored by the "Go For Broke National Veterans Foundation," a tax-exempt charitable foundation.

The foundation's affiliated organization consists of veterans from WWII, including 100th Battalion, 442nd Regiment, Military Intelligence Service, WACs, O.S.S., nurses, as well as veterans from the Korean, Vietnam and Desert Storm conflicts, and World War I.



MINETA

Future of Nikkei conference



SIGN UP—Stan Mukai and Karen Tani work JACL membership booth at Future of Nikkei conference held in Los Angeles Oct. 10.

Filling in the gap

By GWEN MURANAKA
Assistant editor

LOS ANGELES—Running up and down among the aisles of people with microphones like Asian Phil Donahues, L.A. school board member Warren Furutani and Richard Chung asked the participants at the Future of the Nikkei Community conference Oct. 10 to reexamine what brings us together and tears us apart as a community. The forum, called the "Generation Gap Talk Show," was the first and one of the most innovative parts of the conference, the last in a series of year-long events commemorating internment sponsored by the L.A. Community Coalition to Commemorate 50 Year Remembrance: Japanese American Internment.

Facilitating discussion were panelists Kenji Ogawa, Lori Ota, Mako Jitodai and Evelyn Yoshimura who represented different generations of Nikkei. Yoshimura, representing the baby boomer generation said growing

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MORE CONFERENCE: Media images—page 3

Youth in force

Youth came out in force at the Future of the Nikkei Conference, exploring what it means to be Japanese American and announcing that they are ready to wear the mantle of leadership. In two workshops devoted to youth, young Japanese Americans heard from actor Lane Nishikawa and in groups explored questions of identity.

In the first workshop, Nishikawa performed skits from his one-man shows, "Life in the Fast Lane" and "Memoirs of Buddha." He said he is encouraged when he sees young people attend his plays. "It's wanting something more from their four years of college than just getting education, making money and moving to the suburbs." Nishikawa

See YOUTH/page 3

At legislative play . . .

Portraying legislators in the state assembly, participants in the political empowerment workshop Oct. 10 got a chance to see how the legislative process works and how to get involved.

Participants in the mock legislative session included: Rose Ochi, Trisha Murakawa, Jonathan Kaji, Jimmy Tokeshi and George Nakano. Seeking to teach about the political process, the workshop started with an example of ignorance. Craig Minami, APAN Chapter, JACL, member, clad in a burlap sack mask, presented the uninformed perspective, saying the internment camps were like "summer camp" and women should "stand by your man."

The session had participants give pro and con opinions on three initiatives coming up on the California November ballot—prop. 164-congressional term limits; prop. 165-budget reform

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No. 2,683

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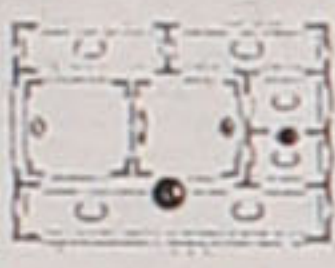
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Calendar

Washington, D.C.

Wednesday, Oct. 28—"The View from Within: Japanese American Art from the Internment Camps, 1942-46," slide lecture by Karin Higa, 7:30 p.m., Carmichael Auditorium, National Museum of American History, Constitution Avenue and 14th St., NW. More than 100 paintings, drawings, prints, and sculptures on exhibit. Free. Museum open daily from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Arizona Phoenix

Thursday, Oct. 22—National Society of Fund Raising Executives' "From Ideas to Action... the Basics of Fund Raising," a minority outreach workshop, ASU Mercado location (5th and Monroe), 8 a.m. Registration: \$50. Information: Mark Trujillo, Central Arizona Shelter Services, 1209 W. Madison, Phoenix, AZ; 85007; 602/256-6945.

Idaho

Lewiston

Through Wed., Nov 25—"An Artists View of the Japanese American Internment," by Kenjiro Nomura, Lewis-Clark Center for Arts & History. Exhibit or catalog information: June McKivor, Nomura project director; museum information: Leslie Esselburn, 208/799-2243.

California Sacramento

Saturday, Nov. 7—The Sacramento Nichiren Buddhist Church's Fall Food Bazaar, 5191 24th St., 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Information: Rev. Igarashi, 916/ 456-8371.

San Francisco Area

Mon., Oct. 19-Mon. Nov. 30—Asian American Theatre Center's Intensive Theatre Workshop with Lane Nishikawa, Mon., Tues. eve and Sat. and Sun. afternoons. Cost: \$300. Information: Sharon Omi 415/751-2600.

Sat., Oct. 24-Sun. Oct. 25—The 11th annual International Taiko Festival, Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley, Sat. 8 p.m., Sun. 3 p.m. Cost: \$20, \$17, and \$13. Information and tickets: Cal Performances Box Office, 415/624-9988 and all BASS/Ticketmaster outlets.

Sunday, Oct. 25—Japanese American Services of the East Bay's 4th annual awards dinner, Oakland Airport Hilton Hotel, 6 p.m. Honorees include: Natsuko Irei, Grace Shibata, Charles Phinney, Tomo Morodomi, and the Henri and Tomoye Takahashi Charitable Foundation. Tickets: \$50. Information: 510/848-3560.

Sunday, Nov. 1—The Nisei Widowed Group's monthly meeting, 2-4 p.m. New members welcome. Information: Elsie Uyeda Chung (S.F.) 415/221-0268, or Yuri Moriwaki (E.B.) 510/482-3280.

San Jose

Thursday, Oct. 29—San Jose, Sequoia, and West Valley Chapters' forum, "The Role of Asian Americans in the Media," Wesley Methodist Church, 566 N. 5th St., San Jose, 7:30 p.m. Panelists include: Dan Nakaso, San Francisco Examiner, and Lloyd LaCuesta, KTVU-TV. Information: 408/295-1250.

Fresno

Through Sunday, Nov. 22—Fresno Metropolitan Museum's "Country Voices: Three Generations of Japanese American Farming," 1555 Van Ness Ave. at Calaveras, Downtown Fresno. Mon.-Sun.: 11 a.m. Admission: adults \$3, seniors \$2. Information: 209/441-1444.

Los Angeles Area

Wednesday, Oct. 21—ARCO Foundation's reception for Asian Pacific Islanders in Philanthropy (APIP), ARCO Plaza, 515 S. Flower St., 37th Floor, downtown L.A.; 5 p.m. Information: Bill Watanabe, LTSC, 213/ 680-3729. Parking validated at ARCO Plaza.

Saturday, Oct. 24—Karen Tei Yamashita reads and signs copies of her new book, "Brazil-Marú," JACCC, North Gallery, 244 S. San Pedro St., Little Tokyo, 2 p.m. Information—213/628-2725.

Sunday, Oct. 25—PSW JACL's reception for Bob Bratt, former ORA director, New Otani Hotel, Little Tokyo, 12 p.m. Music and art by Lillian Nakano, Glenn Horiuchi, Mary Nomura, and David Iwataki. Cost: \$35 seniors, students and financially needy. \$45 general admission. Information: Carol Saito 213/626-4471.

Mon., Oct. 26-Sun., Nov. 22—The George J. Doizaki Gallery of the JACCC's "Kiyoshi Awazu: Artist and Designer," 244 S. San Pedro St., Tues.-Fri., noon-5 pm; weekends, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; closed Mondays. Information: 213/628-2725.

Wednesday, Oct. 28—Asian American Economic Development Enterprises and Cambodian Business Association's business training course, "Secrets of Franchise Success," American International Bank, 23670 Hawthorne Blvd., Torrance, 7 p.m. Cost: \$150, includes hand-outs and tour of franchise show. Information: 213/ 687-0677.

Ventura County

Friday, Oct. 30—Ventura County Chapter, JACL, annual potluck dinner and bingo night, Camarillo Public Library, 3100 E. Ponderosa Dr., Camarillo, Calif. 7 p.m. Information: Ruby Sumino, 805/499-4070, or Emi Kodama, 805/492-5912.

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Media molds perceptions, say conference speakers

LOS ANGELES—Media images affect how we perceive ourselves said a panel at the Future of the Nikkei Conference Oct. 10. Panelists included: actress Tamlyn Tomita; Tritia Toyota, newscaster, KCBS-TV; Steven Mao, creative executive, Touchstone Pictures; and Glenn Masuda, registered psychologist. Guy Aoki, a founder of the Media Action Network for Asian Americans (MANAA) which sponsored the workshop, served as mediator.

"We're not aware of the very subtle ways images affect us," said

Masuda. "We start to believe that men are inept and women are sex objects. The media has an impact on our psyche."

The psychologist said that during last year's Pearl Harbor anniversary and the internment commemorations, he had many patients come in experiencing depression, although they didn't always attribute it to those events. "They were suddenly faced with issues they didn't want to confront," said Masuda.

Toyota said that because she is Japanese American, management

at her station expect her to have knowledge and contacts throughout Asia. "Because I have a yellow face, I get asked about anything west of L.A. Harbor."

Describing the rapid changes in TV news, Toyota said, "We're sitting here talking about media images, the nature of broadcast journalism is changing so fast that we have to develop strategies now."

"Over half of the broadcasts are live—this trend is going to change how we perceive news," said Toyota.

Speaking about the film indus-

try, Mao said filmmakers are neglectful of Asian Americans. "They're just not aware of them. A lot of times they also play to stereotypes, You see a lot of Asian women newscasters."

The Touchstone executive said he tries from the inside to improve Asian American images and encourage more Asian American artists and technicians. "You have to be an advocate in order to make things change. From opening up casting choices, to eliminating egregious stereotypes, to bringing in material other executives might

not be aware of like the 442nd."

Tomita said while it's tough for Asian American actresses, it's tougher for actors. "There are no real positive images of Asian males as opposed to Asian American females. I do have more frequent opportunities to audition for roles that do not necessarily call for an Asian American," said Tomita.

The actress said the community can help Asian American actors and actresses by supporting their work. "Money speaks. You would not believe the power," said Tomita. —GM

CONFERENCE

(Continued from page 1)

up in the Crenshaw area in the '60s really affected her social awareness. "I graduated high school in 1965, the year of the Watts rebellion, it had a big effect on me," said Yoshimura, who is also active in NCRP.

While an older Nisei perspective was missing on the panel, the different views engendered lively debate. Ota said that she became active in community events during college, but after college she ran into difficulties with people unwilling to share power. "After college it seems once you get into that door, sometimes it feels like we're not really welcome," said Ota.

Playing devil's advocate, Furutani, talking about community bazaars and carnivals, said, "I was helping clean up the barbecue grills after the JCI bazaar and the only people there were Nisei and boy were they bitching! Are young people going to maintain the community institutions, are they going to clean the barbecue grills?"

Sharon Ito, a local TV news reporter, said as institutions fade, the sense of community is fading. "I grew up with stories of camp and life centered around church. We've been struggling as Japanese Americans to find our identity, but in a sense, we may have lost what it is to be Japanese American."

Sparking the most lively debate of the day, Jitodai, saying biracial people are not accepted by many Japanese Americans, said, "I really think it's a damn shame so many Japanese Americans marry out." The rebuttals to Jitodai's statement were many, including a Japanese German American who said she identified more with her Japanese American side, and Trisha Murakawa, JACL vice president of planning, who said as oppressed people, Japanese Americans have to stick together.

While little was agreed upon by the diverse group, it was agreed that the Buddhist churches, community centers, and Nikkei basketball leagues create an infrastructure that binds the community together. Asking what is on the Japanese American agenda, Furutani said, "Needless to say, there is not one definitive answer, but when we go beyond talking about the camps, the Japanese American agenda is clearly an unwritten page." ☐

LEGISLATIVE

(Continued from page 1)

and prop. 167-state taxes.

Taking the pro position on term limits, Murakawa played a conservative politician saying, "Don't be fooled, especially by these flaming liberal politicians." Arguing against the proposition were Jonathan Kaji and George Nakano. After debate on each proposition, the group voted. Final results were: yes on prop. 167, no on prop. 165 and no on prop. 164.

Later, each of the panelists discussed their own personal involvement in politics and, noting the shrinking demographics of the Nikkei community, encouraged others to get involved. ☐

YOUTH

(Continued from page 1)

encouraged the youth to pursue careers in the arts and not be discouraged. "If it's written well, it will sell," said Nishikawa. Afterwards, people split into groups to discuss what they thought it meant to be Japanese American.

A highlight in the second youth session was a multi-media slide show on three screens showing campus life at UCLA and the many cultural and social activities of NSU. Earlier the conference sponsored a tour of neighboring colleges and universities for college-bound Nikkei. ☐



STRAIGHT TALK—(left to right) Evelyn Yoshimura, Mako Jitodai, Lori Ota, and Kenji Ogawa talk about differences between generations at the Future of the Nikkei Community conference Oct. 10.

IN MATTERS OF PRINCIPLE, WE HAVE WORKED WITH AND FOUGHT FOR THOSE WHO HAVE CHOSEN THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED. IT HAS MADE ALL THE DIFFERENCE.

On May 3, 1942 Fred Korematsu was arrested in San Leandro, California for refusing to be relocated and interned. Fred's a regular guy; he can be anyone's husband, father or grandfather. Yet, in his simple refusal, he affirmed the fundamental idea of "equality and justice for all." His courageous defiance challenged and moved the nation's institutions to give substance to

Photo by Shirley Nakao



these words and inspired many to fight systemic racial discrimination.

For twenty years, the Asian Law Caucus has worked for people like Fred. We've fought for people like Ms. Chin to pull in a few more dollars for her hard labor at a sweatshop, and for elderly tenants like Mr. Yee, to prevent him from being forced out into the streets. We've served people like Mr. Cruz to help him from being deported and help him gain his citizenship, and Mr. Thien, to one day reunite him with his family still living in Southeast Asia. We've represented former internees like Mr. and Mrs. Okutsu to obtain redress payments. And we've assisted victims of racial violence like Mr. Song Jun Park so he doesn't have to wake up to a burning cross on his lawn. In 1982, we undertook one of our most crucial civil rights challenges. With new evidence, we played a central role in a legal team which successfully petitioned the federal courts to overturn the war time conviction of Fred Korematsu. The victory dismantled one of the last legal barriers to redress and reparations. To ensure the continued advocacy of civil rights for Asian Pacific Americans, the

Asian Law Caucus and the Korematsu family established the Fred Korematsu Civil Rights Fund. We invite you to contribute and be part of our journey. No doubt, we will cross many forked roads. With you, we know we will take the right path.

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JACL supports Native Americans on Columbus Day

In anticipation of Columbus Day (Oct. 12) the Japanese American Citizens League issued a statement commemorating and celebrating the spirit and contributions of Native Americans. At its August national convention, JACL adopted a resolution that recognized the shared experiences that run through the histories of both Japanese Americans and Native Americans in America. The organization noted that both Japanese and Native Americans were forcibly removed from their homes and made to live in areas designated by the government—the Native Americans were shunted onto reservations

and Japanese Americans into internment camps. Both have worked together to seek justice for their communities. The JACL resolution, adopted unanimously, read as follows: "WHEREAS, Japanese Americans and Native Americans share common ground as ethnic minorities in a dominant culture; "WHEREAS, Japanese Americans and Native Americans have shared the experience of forced evacuation and relocation into government-sponsored residential centers; "WHEREAS, Japanese Americans and Aleutian Islander Native Americans have stood side-by-side and worked hand-in-hand

to redress the wrongs of the forced evacuation and relocation of their respective communities; "WHEREAS, 1992 marks 50 years since the implementation of Executive Order 9066, and 500 years since the landing of Christopher Columbus onto these shores; "NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: The Japanese American Citizens League pledges to join with Native Americans, and other Americans on and around Oct. 12, 1992 in commemorating the continuous vitality of Native American communities and indigenous peoples in the 500 years since the landing of Columbus." ☐

NOTES
(Continued from page 1)
today. Send name, address and telephone to be on a mailing list.
• **Monument Fund** - As of Sept. 30, \$36,000 remains to be raised. Send tax-deductible donation to: Poston Memorial Fund [IRS #95-1276018], c/o Union Bank, P.O. Box 1167, Sacramento, CA, 95806.
• **Poston II School** - Renamed Le Pera School it continues to be in use by primary grade children.

Former Poston II residents are planning to make a 50th anniversary gift to the school.
• **Relic at Poston III** - Visible from the Poston Rd. at Navaho are two huge black concrete cisterns, which were part of the camp sewer treatment plant. ☐

POSTON
(Continued from page 1)
Colorado River Indian Tribes, delivered Oct. 6, at the dedicatory ceremonies of the memorial monument, which is about 12 miles south of Parker. When the first evacuees were moved into Poston in May-June, 1942, into Poston I (there were ultimately three camps and to a peak population of 17,867 - then the state's second largest city), the reservation was undeveloped, Eddy recalled it was "desolate, hot and brush-covered land. "The memory of the reservation as it was then is quite a contrast to what you see today (verdant green of alfalfa and cotton fields waiting to be harvested or just harvested). Remnants of the internment camps are hardly visible because of ongoing development. However, some small physical objects do remain and probably always will," Eddy continued. "As time goes on and takes it tolls... all that will remain will be the memories of those years from which the knowledge of this episode will be passed on down to your younger generations." Expressing his pleasure in joining in the preservation efforts, "may this monument stand as a reminder of an act that should never happen again," Eddy concluded.

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When the first evacuees were moved into Poston in May-June, 1942, into Poston I (there were ultimately three camps and to a peak population of 17,867 - then the state's second largest city), the reservation was undeveloped, Eddy recalled it was "desolate, hot and brush-covered land. "The memory of the reservation as it was then is quite a contrast to what you see today (verdant green of alfalfa and cotton fields waiting to be harvested or just harvested). Remnants of the internment camps are hardly visible because of ongoing development. However, some small physical objects do remain and probably always will," Eddy continued. "As time goes on and takes it tolls... all that will remain will be the memories of those years from which the knowledge of this episode will be passed on down to your younger generations." Expressing his pleasure in joining in the preservation efforts, "may this monument stand as a reminder of an act that should never happen again," Eddy concluded. This message was unique with its Native American understanding and perspective. In the same vein, the Rev. Lloyd K. Wake (Poston III) called upon the "Great Spirit" in his invocation. George S. Oki, Sr. (Poston II) of Sacramento, co-chair of the monument committee, and master of ceremonies, citing the changes that have been made on the land, repeated the meaning of the monument that "Americans in the future will never again be denied their constitutional rights." The 30-foot concrete spire of the monument is said to be topped off by an Indian symbol. It evoked curiosity throughout the three-day reunion based at Laughlin, Nev., nearly 100 miles north. At the six-sided base are bronze panels: (1) Flourished with the Great Seal of the Colorado River Indian Tribes, proclaiming the monument as a memorial dedicated to the internees "who suffered countless hardships... at the hands of a nation misguided by wartime hysteria, racial prejudice and fear. May it serve as a constant reminder of our past so that Americans in the future will never again be denied their constitutional rights and may the remembrance of that experience serve to advance the evolution of the human spirit..." (2) Story of Poston: E.O. 9066, War Relocation Authority, of the camp being named after government engineer Charles Poston, who planned an irrigation system to serve the needs of the Indian people along the Colorado River, and of the first project director Wade Head, then superintendent of the Papago Indian Reservation. (3) Story of Poston: Administration, description of the barracks, the 48-hour work week and wages, health care, schools (eventually constructed with adobe

D.C. notes



Redress: a grass roots effort

By **KAREN NARASAKI**

Washington, D.C. Representative
Among the many individuals who deserve credit for the passage of H.R. 4551 this year are the individual JACL members who participated in the grass roots network. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members formally as part of the network and the countless others who took the time to write, call and visit their members of Congress. In particular, the individuals in states not heavily populated by Japanese Americans, such as Utah, Michigan, Ohio, New Jersey, New York, Wisconsin and Georgia, deserve recognition. Lobbying when you don't have the advantage of numbers takes a special kind of chutzpah.

Also deserving special mention is Cherry Kinoshita who served as JACL redress chairwoman and spent countless hours assisting me in organizing JACL's grass roots efforts. In addition to working with Carol Kamiyama and Tomio Moriguchi to get 100% of the Washington state congressional delegation on board, she helped organize a letter-writing campaign at the Heart Mountain reunion in Seattle. Cherry worked with Gilbert Inaba, Tad and Fran Wada, Bacon Sakatani and Washington Coalition on Redress member, Chiz Omori. The Heart Mountain reunion effort produced close to 500 letters to Senators George Mitchell and John Glenn. In addition, Bill Hosokawa initiated a

resolution which the attendees adopted by acclamation and sent to Senators Mitchell, Glenn, Dole and Simpson.

Jonathan Kaji, Edwin Hiroto and George Oki helped us to work on Republican members and the administration. Countless other individuals helped to get letters to Washington. Mary Tsukamoto reports that the Florin chapter was able to generate more than 1,550 letters alone. JACL-LEC helped to fund the grass roots efforts. The mailings and telephone calls were covered by JACL-LEC, in addition to a new word processing system to help the Washington, D.C. office track the legislation and get materials out to members.

Also deserving of recognition are the members of the Washington D.C., Chapter, JACL, who helped provide support at the Congressional hearings. Joe Ichiuji, Pat Okura and Paul and May Ishimoto attended the House Judiciary Committee hearing and Julia Kuroda and Toshio Tsukahira attended the Senate Governmental Affairs hearing. Kuroda and Tsukahira deserve special mention since the Senate hearings were cancelled twice, so they had to take time out of their busy schedules several times.

JACL members also worked to bring other organizations into the redress effort. Teresa Maebori organized a redress information booth at the National Education Association (NEA) convention and persuaded the NEA to renew its support. Rev. Joe Klecha, M.M., alerted the Maryknoll fathers and brothers, who renewed its support for redress and sent letters of support to the Senate. In addition to these organizations and the 36 organizations reported in a previous *Pacific Citizen* article, the Columban Fathers Justice Peace Office also joined the coalition in support of the redress legislation.

Many JACL members have offered me words of encouragement and thanks. I appreciate the support, but recognize that the effort was truly a community effort, sup-

ported not only by the work of thousands of JACL members and the JACL national staff, but other civil and human rights organizations and concerned individuals as well. Without these efforts and the unswerving leadership and personal commitment of our Asian Pacific American members of Congress, we would not be able to bring closure on individual redress for Japanese Americans.

We need your help in ensuring that the approximately 40 eligible individuals not of Japanese descent who followed their Japanese American spouses and children into camp receive their redress payments. The bill authorized payments to them, but did not make these payments an entitlement. Therefore, specific appropriations of approximately \$1 million is necessary. Congress has authorized the Department of Justice to reprogram some of its budget for FY 1993 for this purpose. We need to convince the department to do so. We urge members to write to Attorney General William P. Barr, Department of Justice, 10th St. and Constitution Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C., 20530, and to President Bush, the White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C., 20500.

In addition, the work for the redress education fund is not over. While the bill authorized funding for the education fund, we will need to seek appropriations for the fund next year. Only the individual redress payments to Japanese Americans are an entitlement. I hope that those of you who worked so hard this year to ensure that all eligible individuals would receive their just due, will renew your commitment next year to ensure that the generations of Americans who follow you will be taught the important lessons to be learned from the Japanese American experience. ☐

Narasaki regularly writes and reports on legislative activities in Washington, D.C.

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Personally speaking

ORGANIZATIONS

• The New York-based **Asia Society**, founded by John D. Rockefeller in 1956 as a forum for building U.S. awareness for Asia, appointed **Nicholas Platt**, U.S. ambassador to Pakistan and a 30-year career diplomat, as its fifth president. He succeeds Robert Oxnam, who has served since 1981. The appointment was made by the society's board of trustees. A Harvard graduate with an M.A. from Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, Platt has been in China, Japan, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and the Philippines before his third ambassadorial and present post in Islamabad.

• The second annual Japanese American Historical Society of Southern California (JAHSOC) community service/achievement awards dinner on Sept. 26 honored five recipients: **Sue Kunitomi Embrey**, for her dedication and perseverance to record as well

as right the wrong of Japanese American incarceration during WWII; **Harry K. Honda**, for his role model for Japanese American journalists and lifetime of community service; **Miles Hamada**, for his regard for the health and welfare of the community and deep interest in the development of Japanese American culture; **Koyasan Boy Scout Troop 379**, for its historic leadership in providing youth with opportunities in scouting and instilling a sense of ethics and responsibility to be community leaders; and the **UCLA Nikkei Student Union**, for its involvement in community service, cultural awareness, political and educational activities in and out of campus. "It's a nice commentary on our community that we have individuals and groups like these—and probably hundreds more—who are such positive role models. They inspire each of us to do more," said Iku Kiriyama, selection committee chair.

SPORTS

• Most valuable player and most sportsmanlike honors went to **Paul Kariya**, British Columbia junior hockey league, Interior Division all-star forward for Penticton Panthers, at the end of the 1992 season.

• The U.S. Judo Federation championship were held this year at the USF Memorial Gymnasium in mid-July, drawing some 830 young competitors in individual and team competition. Several students from the East Bay Judo Institute in El Cerrito earning national honors included **Dan Williams** of Alameda, first place in the 12-year-old 110-pound division; **Colette Lameyse** of Sebastopol, first in the 12-year-old 120-pound girls; **Naomi Peters**, first for the sixth time in the Nationals in the 17-20 year girls' 158-pound & under; **Jim Peters**, first for the fifth time in the Nationals in 17-20 year, 209-pound and up.

Small kid time

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Gwen Muranaka

Opinions



From the frying pan

BILL HOSOKAWA

Creatures of Bi-racial Habits

This is partly about a woman whom we will call Daizie. It is not her real name, but that is not important. Daizie was born and reared in Japan, married an American, and moved to this country many years ago. Languages are not one of Daizie's strong points. Even after long residence in the United States her English leaves much to be desired.

Daizie has a number of Nisei friends. If she made a practice of conversing with them in English, it would seem that her skill would improve. But I noticed something very interesting the other day. Her Nisei friends don't speak to her in English.

This is what happened. A half dozen Nisei were sitting around chattering among themselves in English which, of course, is their native tongue. Nothing unusual about that. Then Daizie wandered over and joined the group. Abruptly everyone shifted linguistic gears and, smooth and natural as you please, the conversation continued in

Japanese without a hitch.

Nobody suggested they speak in Japanese to accommodate Daizie. They just did, automatically, without any kind of signal, and no one thought anything of it.

It struck me that there was something unusual here. A half dozen people thinking nothing of switching away from their native language in their native country to speak a foreign one because one person was uncomfortable with English.

Why did this happen? Was Daizie so helpless that she had to be catered to in this way even after so many years? Was it a compassionate move, begun when Daizie was new to America and continued without further thought? Or, on the other hand, was she such a domineering figure that she could bend the others to her will, that her friends without thinking felt compelled to do what was pleasant for her?

The oddity was that Daizie, despite her problems, is able to express herself better

in English than some of the others could speak in Japanese. Yet Japanese was the tongue of choice whenever she joined the group.

Although Daizie is not directly involved, I've witnessed something of the same sort among Nisei in the observance of old country customs. When associating with a Japanese family, we do things a certain way because it is their custom even though this is the U.S. of A. Why is it not proper to do things our way and let them adjust? Why do we have to bow just because they do? Isn't a handshake good enough? Why can't we do it our way and let them wrestle with the propriety of helping a lady with her chair at the dinner table?

I don't know the answers; I'm just wondering about why we do the strange things we do. Or maybe they really aren't strange. Perhaps some smart Sansei or Yonsei psychologist has some theories if not explanations. ☐

IN-SIGHT

By
**LILLIAN
C.
KIMURA**
JACL
national
president



Convention process

To continue the report of my visit to the Rocky Mountains, I met with Bill Nagaki, president of the Mile Hi Chapter, and members, Jim and Tillie Taguchi, Emilie Ito, Kevin Katsuma, Ruth Yamaguchi, Roy and Sumiye Takeno and Carolyn Takeshita, who chaired the Convention workshops. (My apologies to the Takenos for misidentifying them in my last column.)

Almost recovered from the convention, the Denverites were on to other issues. But we did evaluate the convention and discuss what should be the responsibilities of the local host chapter in putting on such an event.

Because of my experience for organizing YWCA conventions, I shared what I thought the local chapter could do. The major responsibility for conventions should be the National Board's with the president appointing a convention committee and the host chapter appointing a local arrangements committee. These two groups will work closely together.

The host chapter would recommend a site since it may have a relationship with a hotel, know if its location is convenient to those coming from afar and to the home folks too. The National Board makes the final selection and staff negotiates the best deal for room rates, use of meeting rooms, amenities, etc. They (the host chapter and the Board) must assure that the hotel has an affirmative action plan and is accessible to those otherwise abled.

The host chapter can select the theme, the colors, the special logo. If it desires, it can publish an ad booklet and do all the work that entails.

The host chapter is assigned to organize the opening reception, the booster activities such as the golf tournament, tours, etc. The host committee "markets" the special open events such as the banquets to the local JACLers as well as suggest those who should be invited to attend.

It arranges for exhibits, recommends workshop topics and suggests the leadership for them. The committee helps set the fees but all registration is sent to National Headquarters which, in turn, will pay all the bills.

National staff will manage the convention. The local group will help "person" the registration desk and the information center. The local group will solicit giveaways to put in the registration packets.

Whatever "profit" that is realized by the convention would be shared with the host chapter.

It is my contention that the convention is a National Board responsibility and if the Board members and staff take on this assignment, small chapters would be willing to host such a meeting.

In any case, Neal Taniguchi, vice president for operations, is assigned to work with a small ad hoc group to come up with recommendations for how a convention should be handled after the Salt Lake City confab. If you have any ideas, send them along.

Finally, my thanks to all of the people who helped with the Denver convention. special thanks to Emilie Ito and Kevin Katsuma for their hard work. (Incidentally, the two have announced their engagement so congratulations are in order.) That's thirty for now. ☐



East Wind

BILL MARUTANI

Christianity in Nippon

READ AN ITEM the other day on the subject of how Christianity was progressing in Nippon. With the thought that perhaps you may find some of the points interesting as did I, I'd like to share some of them here. Before proceeding further, a couple of disclaimers. There is no effort here to proselytize, promote or belittle any religion or beliefs; each person is entitled to his/her own convictions. Insofar as I'm concerned, I respect all established religions—I say "established" because I do not accept cults, "hate" religions, etc—and respect those who happen to be atheist. Briefly stated, for me I happen to believe that the Supreme Being provides more than just one pathway to the Promised Land.

AT FIRST BLUSH, some of the data about Christianity in Japan appear to be promisingly optimistic. For example, in Japan each year some 5 million Bibles are printed, and nearly one million Japanese graduate from Christian educational institutions ranging from kindergarten through graduate schools. And the Yuletide Season in Nippon is a gala affair, at least insofar as the department stores are concerned (which parallels what occurs in our U.S.). One might, not unreasonably, think that with five million Bibles being launched into society every year, and one million souls at-

tending and coming out from a Christian institution also every year, that very shortly Japan's 125 million folks would be all Christians—or at least a substantial number of them would be. Yet, according to a poll taken in Japan, only about 2 - 3 percent consider themselves as Christian, and according to Japan's largest Christian newspaper, only 576,000 Japanese are registered as Protestants and 444,000 attend a Catholic or Orthodox church. At the same time, however, one indigenous observer comments that Christian concepts permeate Japan's society far beyond these numbers—an observation which appears to be supported by the nationwide celebration of Christmas (albeit greatly tinged with commercialism) as well as by Western weddings are reported to be such Christian weddings. (But Dec. 25 is a work day in Japan—editor)

SO GREAT is the demand for Christian weddings that many hotels have constructed elaborate chapels at great expense, and to keep the turnover steady (and thereby the cash registers ringing) some limit the minister's ceremony to 20 minutes! Presumably, the pair and their guests move on to another space for some kind of reception, thereby opening up the chapel for the next

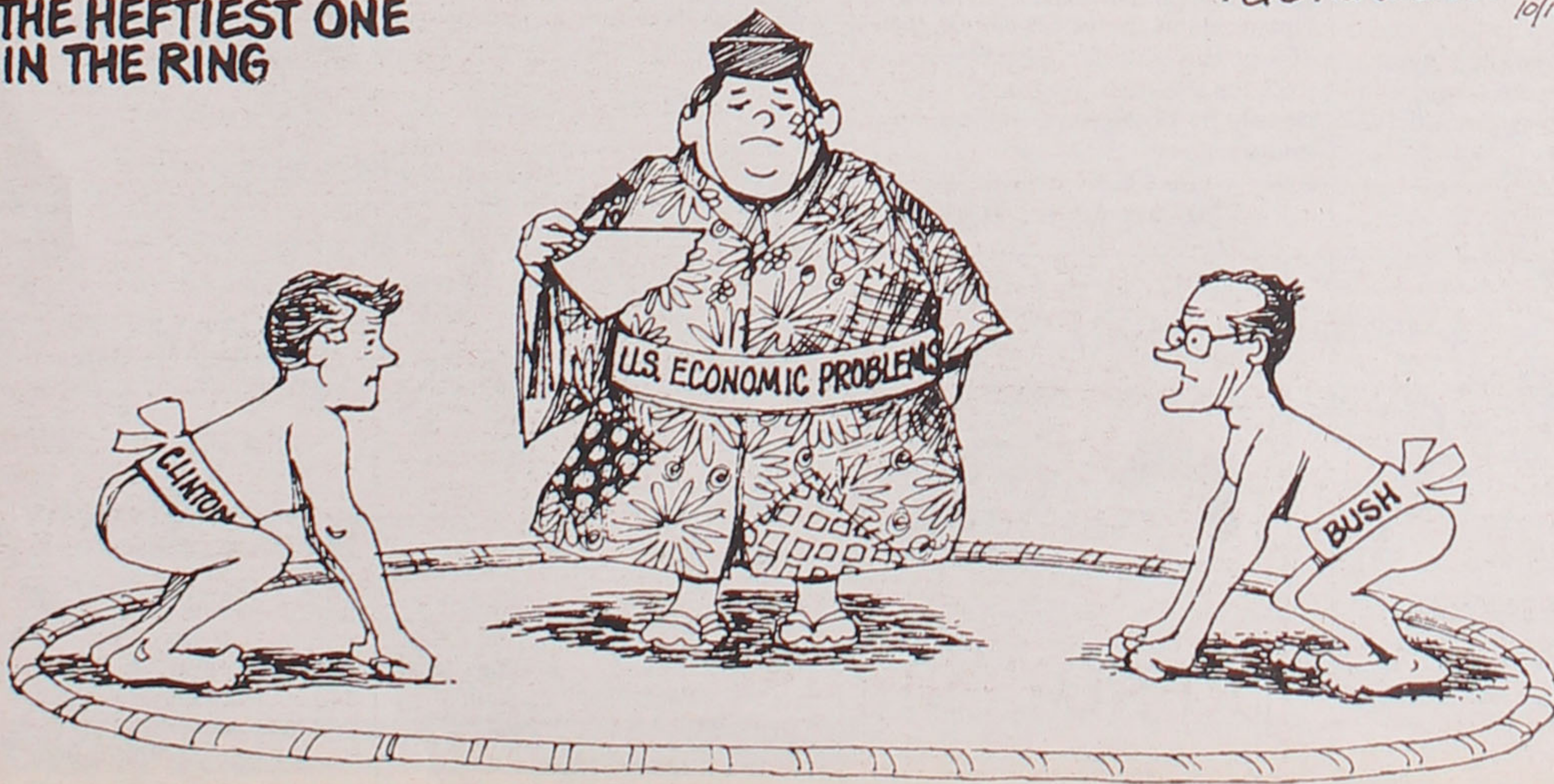
couple. The demand for these Christian weddings may stem from factors other than religious inclinations: it is fashionable among some of the young set to wear a Western-style wedding gown; also, I suspect that if one is a parent and does not wish to sink 20 (U.S.) grand, and up, into a daughter's wedding, a Western ceremony and reception is a comparative bargain.

WHEREAS BUDDHISM came to Yamato in the 6th Century, Christianity's arrival was about a thousand years later—joining Buddhism and Shintoism. These three precepts were not deemed contradictory within the Yamato society: Shintoism was focused upon ancestors and the state; Buddhism centered largely on the family; Christian beliefs were more individualistic. One professor of religion opined that because the early Christian ministers directed their proselytizing upon the Japanese elite as being the most effective approach, as a generalized proposition, even today Christianity's influence in Japan tends to gravitate toward the wealthy and highly-educated.

THERE IS SAID to be a movement underfoot in today's Japan to look at the similarities between Buddhism and Christianity, and thereby end the exclusivity of religions. ☐

THE HEFTIEST ONE IN THE RING

PETE HIROUAKA 10/14/92



Get in the Holiday (Issue) mood

Pacific Citizen has begun preparing for its annual Holiday Issue. This year we want to provide better advertising and editorial service to chapters and members.

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In addition, call us to discuss any stories regarding your chapter that may be suitable for this year-end special issue.

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TADAMI ISHIDA
Tadamishida, 76, of 1855 Laguna St., San Francisco 94115 passed away at 12:41 a.m. at Pacific Medical Center on Oct. 5.
Surviving are wife, Emily (longtime JACL Headquarters staff member); daughters, Yvonne (George) Ishiguro, Katherine (Steve) Watanabe and Celeste (Kevin) Takei; sisters, Misako Uyeno, Fujiko Sumiyoshi and Yoshiko (Bunso) Nishimoto; and seven grandchildren.
Funeral services were held Oct. 7 at Ashley and McMullen Funeral Home in San Francisco.

John J. Tani of Chicago Chapter dies

John J. Tani, 44, a longtime member of the Chicago Chapter, JACL, died following heart surgery on Sept. 25 in Glasgow, Scotland.
A graduate of Glenbard East High School in 1965, Tani received a B.A. from Denison University in 1969 and an M.B.A. from the University of Chicago in 1975. Tani was the director of Management Information Systems for Wilson Sporting Goods International and he had served in similar capacities for Science Research Associates and Kimberly-Clark.
Witness to Martin Luther King's "I have a dream" speech in 1963, Tani became involved in the issues of the Japanese American community, as the JACL presi-

dent of the Chicago Chapter in 1980 and 1981.
In 1981, Mr. Tani represented the Chicago JACL in support of the legislative campaign for redress by presenting testimony at the Chicago hearing of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians.
From 1983 to 1985 he was served as governor of the JACL Midwest District Council and he also served on the board of the Chicago JACL Federal Credit Union.
Tani is survived by his mother, Rose, two sons, Geoff and Reid, and the families of four siblings.
A memorial was held at the First Church of Lombard, Lombard, Oct. 17. ☞

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LISBETH ANN SONODA
Lisbeth Ann Sonoda, 41, of Pebble Beach, California, passed away on August 22, 1992, at Stanford University Hospital, while awaiting a second heart-lung transplant. She was a West Los Angeles JACL 1000 Club life member since 1960.
Surviving her are her mother, Mitsu, of Pebble Beach; two sisters, Cathleen of Pebble Beach and Peggy Asuncion of Scotts Valley; a brother-in-law, Anastacio Asuncion; and niece Kelly Asuncion.
A celebration of her life was held on August 29, 1992 at El Estero Presbyterian Church in Monterey, California.

POSTON
(Continued from page 4)

bricks made by internees), farms, chicken and hog ranch, of the churches, cultural activity, sports and camp newsletters.
(4) Story of Poston: More than 1,200 Nisei volunteer into U.S. Army and more drafted as Selective Service reopens in fall of 1943; seasonal leaves and resettlement, closing of Poston by Dec. 31, 1945. the 1992 epilogue.
(5) Tribute to the 24 Nisei GIs killed in action, while their par-

ents and families were interned in Poston. Illustrated with sketch of a combat-ready Nisei GI.
(6) Appreciation and Acknowledgment to the Colorado River Indian Tribes, monument committee, designer, builders, construction volunteers, landscapers, donors, and to those hosting the Oct. 6, 1992, ceremonies.

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'93 HOKKAIDO WINTER FESTIVAL (Sapporo Snow fest/Abashiri-Hyobaku fest/spa accom/most meals).....(11 days) FEB 8
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Dedication participants included the Parker High School Band, honor color guard from Fort Huachuca, dedicatory dances by the Mohave Indian Tribe members, greetings from a minister (Poston I), George K. Ikeda of Emmaus, Pa. (Poston II), Katsumi J. Takashima of Chula Vista (Poston III), Rudy Tokiwa of San Jose (WWII Nisei veterans), and Reiko Kawakami for Rep. Robert Matsui.
The Taiko Dan opened the ceremonies. Sachiye Endo Sugita (who sang at Poston events) rendered "America the Beautiful." Osame Doi, Joanne Iritani and Richard Karasawa read the names of the Nisei GIs killed in action.

NOTICE -----Where are you?-----

We are still looking for alumni from the National Japanese American Student Relocation Council's program which placed over 3,500 students from relocation camps to various colleges and universities to consider the proposition outlined in Glenn Kumekawa's letter printed below. We welcome all support for and inquiries about our scholarship program.

For the Board of Directors,
Lafayette Noda, Chairperson, Nisei Student Relocation Council Commemorative Fund, Inc., 19 Scenic Drive, Portland, CT 06480.

Dear Former Evacuee,

In June of 1945 I had just graduated from Topaz High School, the third graduating high school class of that Utah internment center. I went on to Bates College in Lewiston, Maine.
Perhaps because I didn't have to make a major effort to search for a college or seek and apply for scholarship aid, I never realized the extent of the commitment put forth by the volunteer staff at the American Friends Service Committee headquarters in Philadelphia. I recently learned that these dedicated people, along with heads of colleges, universities, and the YM and YWCAs, did much more in forming the National Japanese American Student Relocation Council in 1942 than just getting the Nisei students to college.
In broad terms, the Council raised funds from national foundations, organizations, and institutions; identified, contacted and organized universities and colleges who would accept evacuee students; and provided these colleges with funds for scholarships to the evacuee students. They networked and identified potential college students in each of the camps, and matched students with appropriate schools. They secured proof of community acceptance once the colleges accepted the Nisei students. They even made all the arrangements to clear each one of us with the FBI so that we could leave the camps (I didn't know that). I also learned of the desperate emergency Council meetings in New York City to raise additional foundation funds so that the last of the class of 1945 could have some financial aid.
Over 3,500 of us received aid, papers, or information directly from the colleges we were to attend. If you're like me, you assumed it was the schools that were the catalyst in relocating the students. But it was the NJASRC that moved the mountains. I now know why it wasn't by accident that five evacuee students entered Bates College in that far off northeastern corner of New England.
I am glad that today, the Nisei Student Relocation Commemorative Fund (NSRCF) has been formed to keep alive that spirit of helping. I am glad that my teachers at Topaz High School, who helped me maintain my belief in the redemptive nature of our American society, can now be honored by dedicating funds in their names, just as much as I continue to honor my parents, that amazing and indomitable generation of Issei who made it all possible, through a NSRCF Named Fund scholarship.
Several of the 1992 recipients of the Nisei Student Relocation Commemorative Fund's scholarship aid have told us that they in turn will continue one day to help the next generation of students. I am mindful of the parable of the mustard seed. Over \$250,000.00 has been raised, but the opportunity to help more than ten students each year remains great.
So, if you are one of those 3,500 students who graduated from high school in one of the camps and continued on to college, or if you are one who received a helping hand to successfully cope in post-camp America, won't you join me in keeping the spirit alive. Won't you join me in honoring those who honored each of us with their confidence, their help and their affirmation.

Glenn "Rosie" Kumekawa
Class of 1945, Topaz High School
P.S. To that small group of persons, who in an inspired moment started the Nisei Student Relocation Commemorative Fund, my thanks. To my daughter, who is now a Quaker, and to the refugee recipients of the Fund's scholarships, my hopes for the future. To those who will respond to the call, thanks for keeping the spirit alive.

To: NISEI STUDENT RELOCATION COMMEMORATIVE FUND, INC.
19 Scenic Drive, Portland, CT 06480

Donor Name (s) _____
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Enclosed is a check for \$ _____ (tax deductible) payable to the NSRC Fund, Inc.
A named scholarship fund may be established to honor a person of your choosing with a gift of \$2,000 or more.
Fund name _____