

Pacific Citizen

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Vets like listing
—page 3

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\$250 million more . . .

WASHINGTON, D.C.—*Pacific Citizen* learned at press time, Tuesday, Jan. 28, that the Department of Justice is expected to announce full redress funding—a total of \$500 million, \$250 million more than the original allocation, for reparations for Japanese Americans interned during World War II as proposed by President Bush in his fiscal 1993 budget.

The added \$250 million will cover additional persons recently discovered to be eligible for redress. Though the budget still faces approval by the House and Senate, Grant Ujifusa, LECJACL chair, said, "It's wonderful news for our community."

Ujifusa noted that, given the present budget climate, it would have been almost impossible to get such an increase added at the Congressional level, that it had to be in the Bush budget. At this point, it is unclear whether any portion of a \$50 million trust fund will come from the recently proposed allocations.

According to a Justice Department official, Bush is following up sentiments of remorse about the internment that he expressed in a series of speeches on the 50th anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor. Ujifusa said about Pearl Harbor and his recent gesture to make good to the Japanese American community, "Bush deserves credit for what he said. He risked the anger of the vets and put his money where his mouth was."

Ujifusa said he was "very pleased and a little surprised" about the announcement. He credited the work of people like Pat Saiki, former Congresswoman from Hawaii and current head of the Small Business Administration, for making redress an important item of the Bush agenda.

"Keep pounding away and sometimes good things happen," said Ujifusa. More details will follow next week.

Lawsuit win gains ground on accent bias

WASHINGTON, D.C.—An Asian American, who sued his employer for foreign accent bias, was recently successful in his claim, according to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC).

Phanna K. Xieng, the plaintiff in a national origin discrimination suit against the Peoples National Bank of Washington in Washington state, was recently awarded almost \$390,000 in damages. Xieng claimed that he had been discriminated against and denied promotions by officials at the bank because he spoke English with a foreign accent.

Xieng, educated in Cambodia, France, and the U.S., had received extensive English training during his career as a Cambodian Naval Officer and had held several other jobs in the U.S. before joining Peoples National Bank in 1979. Because Xieng had suffered emotional distress and physical disability resulting from the

See SUIT/page 2

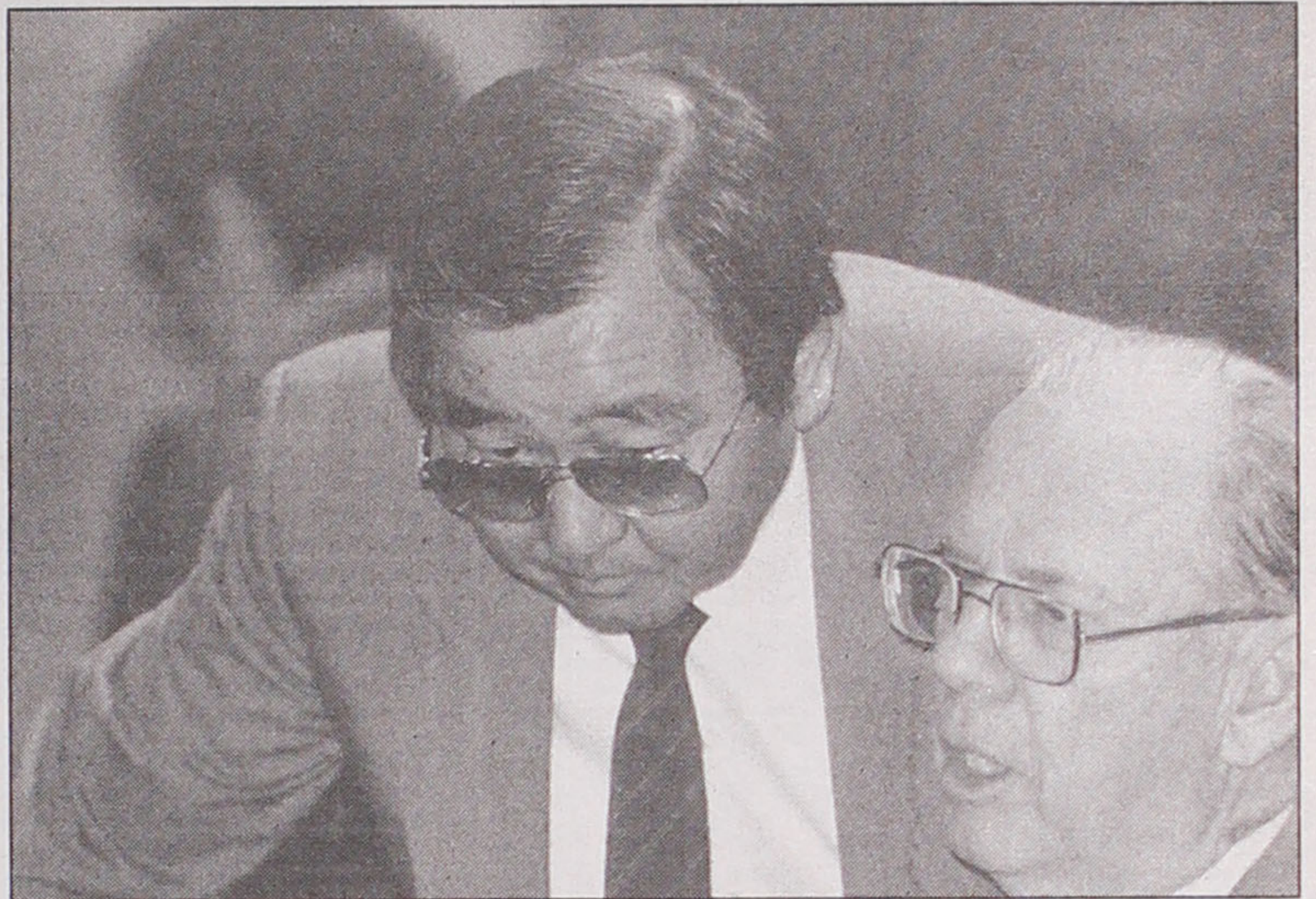
Furor

L.A. transportation commission reneges on deal with Sumitomo after angry objections to loss of American jobs . . . Controversy heats up among business and political communities . . .

By GWEN MURANAKA
Assistant editor

LOS ANGELES—In knee-jerk reaction, the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission, by a unanimous vote Jan. 22, canceled its contract with Sumitomo Corp. after a public outcry over sending American jobs to Japan. As the fear that U.S.-Japan relations may reach a flashpoint, there is growing concern that recent waves of nationalism and "buy American" will turn into racism.

The L.A. Transportation Commission originally awarded the \$121.8 million contract to build driverless cars for the Metro Green Line to Sumitomo Corp. of America. Controversy arose after it was revealed that the Idaho-based Morrison-Knudsen came in with a lower bid. The commission voted for Sumitomo over the American company because Sumitomo had more expertise in build-



CONFERRING—Mas Fukai (left), assistant to L.A. Councilman Kenneth Hahn, says racist remarks are increasing amid the controversy over the city's public transportation program.

ing rail systems. "They were the best," said Mas Fukai, top aide to Los Angeles County Supervisor Kenneth Hahn.

Speaking to *Pacific Citizen*, Fukai, who voted in Hahn's absence to take the contract away from Sumitomo, called the scene leading up to the vote, "Probably one of the ugliest things I've ever seen."

"It was political leadership from the City Council here making it an anti-Japanese thing rather than sticking to the issue of American jobs," said Fukai. Although Fukai commended County Supervisors Michael Antonovich and Kenneth Hahn, and Councilman Richard Alatorre for rising above "dirty politics," he strongly criticized Los Angeles City Council members Joel Wachs and Zev Yaroslavsky. In the *Los Angeles Times*, Yaroslavsky is quoted shouting,

"Never again! Never again!" to the cheers of unemployed union workers who came to the Transportation Committee to protest the Sumitomo contract.

Fukai criticized the councilmen, who are both considering mayoral bids in 1993, for taking political advantage of current anti-Japanese sentiment. "Joel Wachs, City Councilman, (is a) leader for gay rights. That's fine and I support that, but when it comes to Japanese American rights, where is he at? It's very hypocritical—bottom line. Zev Yaroslavsky, (is) very active in the Jewish community, if it was built in Israel, I wonder if he would have had the same complaints."

Fukai said he had received several racist phone calls. "I'd get calls saying, 'What was your name again? Oh, that's a Jap name, no

See FUROR/page 5

Many in Seattle want to play ball with Japanese

By GWEN MURANAKA
Assistant Editor

SEATTLE—Although national attention has been drawn to Seattle because of the proposed \$125 million buyout of the Mariners baseball team by video game giant Nintendo, there has been little reported backlash against Japanese Americans, according to the office of the PNW district of JACL.

Roger Shimizu, acting JACL Pacific Northwest regional director, said, "So far, the office itself hasn't had any negative reaction." Referring to other highly publicized buyouts, Shimizu said, "There are people against the Japanese buying the Mariners, it's the same things we've heard in other acquisitions."

Shimizu, commenting on baseball Commissioner Faye Vincent's recent remarks, said, "If baseball's making strictly a business decision, that's fine, but when it makes a racial state-

"Fourteen hundred work for Nintendo. It's a small workforce, but highly sophisticated. It's a boon to the Northwest to have the main facility here."

Roger Shimizu

ment. (He's) putting it into a racial context."

Adding to the protest is Tomio Moriguchi, president of Uwajimaya, a local food distributor and a former Seattle chapter, JACL, president. He encouraged JACL members with contacts in major league baseball to contact Vincent

and voice their concern.

"We in Seattle are pretty naive, we thought it (the Nintendo bid) would be a slam dunk," said Moriguchi. "It underlies the deep economic frustration of the country. Japanese are easily identifiable. (It's) tragic that the issue is getting caught in the crossfire of deep rooted problems in the country."

"I think the overtone is very racial. They let the Canadians invest. You'd have to guess if it had been French money if they would have acted as strongly. We think it's unhealthy. We're encouraging chapters to tell them (major league baseball) to shape up a bit," said Moriguchi.

He offered a sardonic note to the controversy surrounding the Seattle Mariners, "I jokingly said they should drop the 'world' from World Series and call it the North America

See SEATTLE/page 5

Reactions

From JACL . . .

Commenting on backlash of the recent Sumitomo and Nintendo deals, Dennis Hayashi, national director of JACL, said "Essentially, some of the more rabid politicians and industrialists are trying to fan the flames of this anti-Japan, buy America campaign, (and) skating close to the edge of racial demagoguery."

"They are developing a base of support of people who are racist. These are the people who are most attuned to what they're conveying. It's one thing to debate the merits of trade sanctions, restrictions on imports within the



HAYASHI

context of principled dialogue, this is clearly inappropriate," said Hayashi.

Beyond the much publicized Sumitomo and Seattle Mariner ventures, Hayashi also mentioned potential trouble in San Francisco where foreign rail companies are bidding alongside Morrison-Knudsen, the other bidder for the Metro Green Line contract in Los Angeles and an auto dealer in Detroit who put a Japanese car out for people to bash.

"It's the same kind of thing that went on before Vincent Chin was killed," said Hayashi.

Earlier, Hayashi sharply criticized Sen. Donald Riegle, Jr. (D-Mich.) for statements he made to the *Detroit Free Press* recently about Japanese House of Representatives Speaker Yoshio Sakurachi's comments about American workers. Riegle was quoted saying, "Mr. Sakurachi's attitude in slandering American workers was the same view the Japanese held the day their warplanes struck Pearl Harbor.

Their arrogance was gone by 1945 when they learned the full measure of America's capabilities."

Reacting to this, Hayashi said, "Given that U.S.-Japan relations are at an all-time low, both Mr. Sakurachi's and Sen. Riegle's egregious comments only serve to fuel racial emotions. In this regard Sen. Riegle's gratuitous references to Pearl Harbor and masked support for the atomic bombings were particularly troublesome."

Beyond Japan bashing, recent America bashing by officials in the Japanese government drew sharp criticism from the JACL.

Hayashi said, "I think they're out of line too. Both sides need to evaluate where this dialogue is going and where the fallout is. We're concerned about what happens to Japanese Americans and Asian Americans. I think there are certain people in political positions

See REACTION/page 5

Vets pleased with listing of names

By HARRY K. HONDA
Editor emeritus

LOS ANGELES — The January 25-26 weekend was devoted to installation of officers of two Nisei veterans groups with an update on the proposed 100-442-MIS Memorial Foundation monument presented at both New Year dinners.

Referring to the *Pacific Citizen* Holiday Issue listing of Nisei who fought overseas in World War II, Col. Young O. Kim (ret.) told the 200 present at the 100th-442nd Veterans Association Jan. 25 at Torrance Holiday Inn that he was highly gratified by the overwhelming response from around the nation.

"One woman writes that her husband's name was missing in the (Infantry Journal's) *Americans: The Story of the 442nd Combat Team*, which was picked up again in John Tsukano's *Bridge of Love...* She wanted to make sure it appears this time on the monument.

"Of course, back in 1946 it was thought that the roster was complete, but now we learn who is missing or with a misspelled name since the Name Selection Committee relied on the same list.

"Furthermore, the committee is anxious to identify the 300 men who were originally replacements for the 442nd who were diverted to the Battle of the Bulge."

At the MIS Club of Southern California dinner Jan. 26 at the Santa Monica Bay View Plaza, Harry Akune, chairman of the Name Selection Committee, added, "We are receiving a constant flow from 50 to 100 letters each week. We acknowledge each one with a proper form that needs to be filled out." (It should be explained that there is no one at the

telephone at the NCS Committee address; hence, individuals who call the P.C. office are told to inquire in writing.)

"The 10-page of names which appeared in the Holiday Issue is a first draft; a second draft will follow. (The listing is carried as paid advertising.—Editor.)"

13-Minute Videotape

The recently-produced Visual Communications videotape, "We Must Never Forget," with an introduction by and an eloquent support of the project from Sen. Daniel Inouye and narrated by George Takei, was shown and distributed at both veteran functions. It captures the story of Japanese American WWII veterans with clips of the Evacuation — the ironic demonstration of Nisei in combat in Europe and in Asia proving their loyalty to America while their parents and families were interned by the U.S. in concentration camps.

According to George Nishinaka, administrative coordinator, "It is well-suited to show children and friends who might ask: What happened to Japanese Americans during World War II? Why the positive changes in community and government attitudes about Japanese Americans after the war? How can the Nikkei benefit from the legacy left by the Nisei soldiers?"

The foundation said the tape is available to those who contribute \$25 or more to the building of the monument and promise to show it to at least 20 persons. For information, write the 100th/442nd/MIS World War II Memorial Foundation, 1438 Oak St., Los Angeles, CA 90015.

Vets Re-elect Presidents

Hank Yoshitake, 100th veteran

and a semi-retired TV shop owner, was re-elected president of the 100th-442nd Veterans. Referring to the on-going controversy over the listing of names, living and dead, on the monument in Little Tokyo, he declared, "There is no better credible way to tell the Japanese American story of World War II than to name its authors" to the non-Nikkei.

He also declared, "Honoring the war dead is a very sacred tradition in the Nikkei community," and felt that another monument for the Nikkei killed and missing in action in all the wars might well be the solution. While he agreed with the idea of a monument to honor all the Nikkei war dead, it did not meet the original intent of the City of Los Angeles to tell the Japanese American story of WWII to future generations.

He announced a 442nd monument is being planned for Camp Shelby's Museum, the 100th Battalion's 50th anniversary reunion is coming up this year and the granddaddy of all 442nd reunions in 1993 — both in Hawaii.

Lt. Comdr. Henry Shimozono (ret.), naval chaplain during the Vietnam War, was guest speaker. The Los Angeles-born Nisei is assisting at the Long Beach veterans hospital. Sterling Suga (Co. E) was emcee.

Jim Mita of Gardena continues to head the MIS Club of Southern California. P.C. editor emeritus Harry K. Honda was guest speaker. He spoke on the exploits of Sgt. Frank Fujita, the Japanese Texan who fought the Japanese in Java, captured in 1942, imprisoned in the Phillipines and later assigned to Camp Bunka, the base for Allied POWs who were assigned to Radio Japan. Mits Usui was emcee.

Nikkei newscaster speaks at Selanoco installation

For the record: Part of last week's Tritia Toyota story was inadvertently omitted. Here is the complete story.

By HARRY K. HONDA
Editor emeritus

LA MIRADA, Calif. — Tritia Toyota, KCBS-TV anchorperson, was still "on ACTION News" Saturday night (Jan. 18) at the 26th annual Selanoco JACL installation dinner at the Holiday Inn. Toyota opened her talk with a commentary on current events that included the bomb threat made on the PSWDC JACL Office telephone answering machine earlier in the week. She anticipated "the L.A. Police Department will treat the threat as a racial hate crime and that the police would initiate full security measures."

'We need to continue to be vigilant; we must stand together'

—Tritia Toyota

As she reread the message that she had broadcast, it was a complete shock to some of the 130 members and guests present.

Despite the threat to plant a bomb at the Day of Remembrance program Feb. 15 at Little Tokyo's JACCC, "let's show up" at the event, she urged. It also means that "we (Asian/Pacific Americans) need to continue to be vigilant; we must stand together ... that things are tough and it's not going to get better" as she focused on the need to act cohesively in matters of combatting racism.

As for Nielsen ratings, the veteran newscaster said she has yet to find an Asian home with that box, but urged viewers to call in whether they agree or disagree, whether it's good or bad on what they see on TV. "And everytime you see something you don't like,

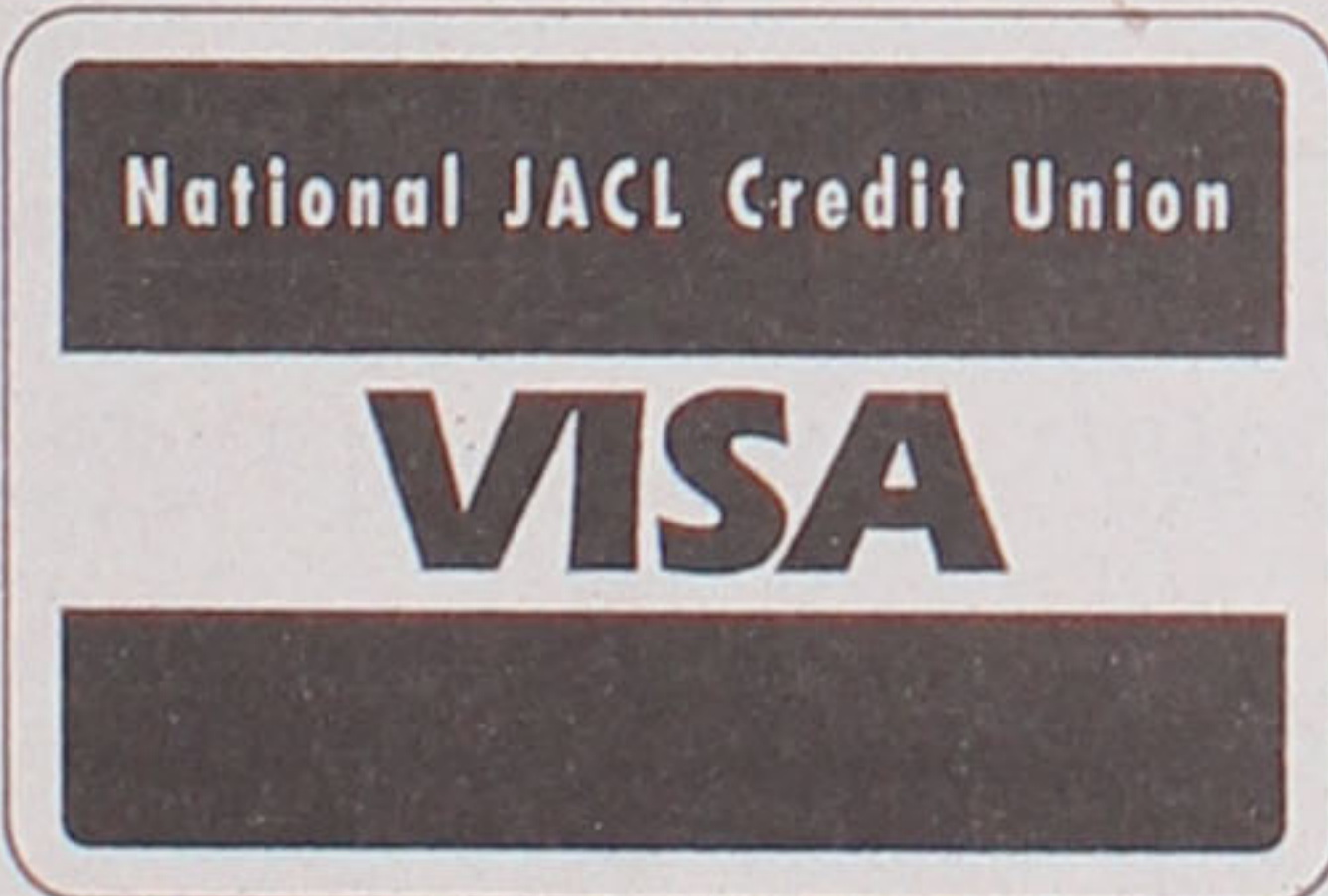
holler!"

PSWDC Gov. Carol Kawamoto installed Edwin Shiba of Anaheim, a 1971-73 CCDC district youth representative, who succeeded Ken Inouye of Huntington Beach, a three-term chapter president and PSW governor. Among the highlights of his 1991 administration were the workshops on Japanese American experiences the chapter conducted for Orange

County high school teachers and supporting Asian groups at University of California-Irvine to initiate Asian American studies.

Judge Richard Hanki and Ruth Mizobe, immediate past chapter president, were recognized as distinguished members of the year. A perennial joy and a Selanoco treat, Hanki accepted and continued his entertaining role as master of ceremonies.

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Opinions



From the frying pan

BILL HOSOKAWA

Pearl Harbor Anniversary coverage

I don't know about you, but I'm happy to see the Pearl Harbor anniversary over with. Now we can go on to other things.

Japanese Americans, no less than the government in Tokyo, were fearful of a media orgy of Japan-bashing. Why fearful? Japan-bashing would reflect on Japanese Americans in 1991 just as it did in 1941. It didn't happen even though enormous amounts of ink was expended on the anniversary.

Surprisingly, much of the anniversary coverage was devoted to telling how U.S. leaders ignored the many signals that war was imminent. (Indeed, the discredited conspiracy theory—that Roosevelt and Churchill were aware of the impending attack on Pearl Harbor but did nothing to stop it in a scheme to sucker the Japanese into starting the war—surfaced again.) "Attack on Pearl Harbor Caught U.S. Napping," said one headline and there were many more like it. The alarm clock sounded days before the raid but the Army and Navy slept on.

That, as I recall, wasn't the message we received in the angry and frightening days

after Dec. 7, 1941. Everyone from Franklin Roosevelt on down was crying treachery. Of course the Tojo government deserved such condemnation, it being accepted form to give notice before dropping bombs.

The anger provoked by the attack united the nation and, in hindsight, it appears our leaders in Washington didn't care very much whether the Japanese Americans were victimized. Rounding them up while Allied forces were suffering one defeat after another gave the impression the U.S. was doing "something" to win the war and, generally speaking, the press didn't see much wrong with trampling on our rights.

Fifty years later we got a better shake in the media. Time magazine's Pearl Harbor coverage devoted a page to a report titled "A Time of Agony for Japanese Americans." The secondary headline, quoting Congressman Norman Mineta, said "Interning 120,000 in desolate camps, the U.S. 'put a yoke of disloyalty' on them." Newsweek turned over its "My Turn" page to Gene Oishi's thoughtful essay about his mixed feelings on "celebrating"—an unfortunate word choice not by Oishi but by some Newsweek editor—Pearl Harbor Day. The

lead editorial in the New York Times on Dec. 7, titled "The Hidden Heroes," applauded the war record of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the contribution of the MIS linguists and individual heroes like Ben Kuroki and Frank Hachiya. Likewise, the television coverage I saw recognized the plight of Japanese Americans in World War II, as did many local newspapers.

It's impossible to say how much of this even-handed treatment was due to the public relations efforts of organizations like JAACL and statements from Japanese American members of Congress, but the impact must have been substantial.

Yet, in the broad view it would seem that, in addition to military valor, the half-century record of earnest, exemplary citizenship demonstrated by Japanese Americans as they overcame unfairness and struggled to regain status through the democratic system had as much as anything to do with fair media recognition.

It is a record all Americans can be proud of in a troubled period. Now as we were saying, the time has come to move on to other concerns. ☐

Letters

PC letter policy

Letters should be brief and are subject to editing. Please sign your letter but make sure we are able to read your name. Include mailing address and telephone number. You may fax letters to 213/626-8213 or mail them to Letters to the Editor, Pacific Citizen, 701 E. 3rd St., Ste. 201, Los Angeles, Calif. 90013.

Rhapsody review criticized

The Holiday Issue of the *Pacific Citizen* contained (A36) a favorable review of the movie which, I fear, will presage unanticipated problems for the Nikkei community.

The *New York Times Magazine* section of November 3, 1991 (highlighting "Pearl Harbor"), contained a reference to this movie in which a Japanese American (the hero-figure) found it appropriate to apologize to his Japanese relatives about the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

The PC reviewer appears to concur with Kurosawa that America should develop or share a sense of guilt. The problem lies in Kurosawa's making a Japanese American the spokesman for that guilt trip.

Although only a piece of fiction, it brings to mind the concerns of a few years ago, when we were disturbed by the Japanese TV serial movie, *Futatsu no Sokoku*, which raised the question of possible dual loyalties on the part of Nikkei. Fortunately, the TV serial was not translated or shown here, and could not be used as a "myth" by the likes of Lillian Baker or her ilk. Unfortunately, however, a movie starring Richard Gere, now opening in the U.S. market, should be a concern of the JAACL.

Apologies (for Pearl Harbor and for Hiroshima/Nagasaki) were properly downplayed by officials and scholars on both sides of the Pacific and did not become a matter of serious confrontation during the recent commemoration of Pearl Harbor Day. The suggestion that a Japanese American finds it necessary, as the focal point of a movie, to apologize for the U.S. action that brought an end to that War raises a problem here.

President Truman's decision to use the bomb was made in order to save further lives of both military and civilians on both sides. Plans to invade Japan were in place at the time, as reflected in "Reports of General MacArthur, Volume I Supplement." The invading groups contained large numbers of military personnel, who would not have survived, and perhaps hundreds of thousands of Japanese would have perished in defense of their home islands. The invading forces were far outnumbered by the 1,700,000 in the Japanese military, supported by another 3,200,000 civilian defense volunteers, on the main four islands alone (in addition to those who would be brought back from Korea and China for additional support).

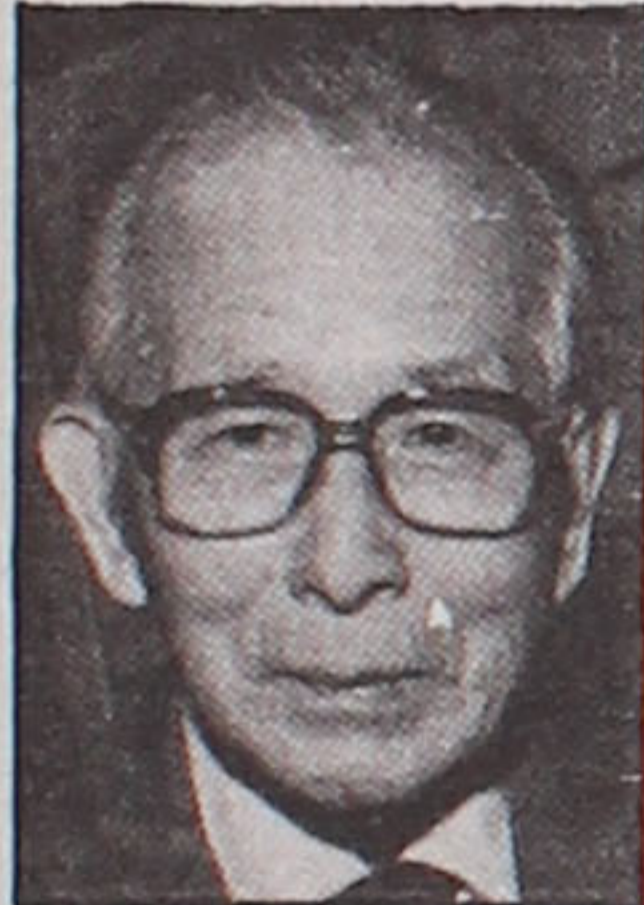
Notwithstanding the tremendous losses resulting from the bombs, there was (and, perhaps, still is) a certain ambivalence on the part of those then poised and prepared for the combat invasion of Japan as to the consequences of those bombs: some linguists and, to a far larger extent, non-linguists, still alive, tend to feel that their survival during the succeeding 46 years can be attributed to Truman's fateful decision, and that far more lives on both sides would have been wasted had a combat invasion required.

The movie was presented last May at the Cannes Film Festival. The delay in opening in the States might be attributable to Orion's genuine concern about the reaction of the American public to a gratuitous apology by the movie's hero. On the other hand, Kurosawa, in appealing to a Japanese audience, had no such concern.

With this in mind, the JAACL, nationally and locally, should give this issue some priority on its current agenda. One approach might be that of weighing the lives saved as against those lost; another might be that Kurosawa's message may titilate a Japanese audience; but, at a time when apologies are deemed inappropriate, should not be fostered here. The spectre raised, of an apology by the hero-figure, is formidable and (as in your forthright and well-planned handling of the commemoration of Pearl Harbor Day) should be studied and confronted before it reaches dangerous proportion in other media.

Allen H. Meyer
Chicago, Ill.

Moshi Moshi



JIN KONOMI

The tip and a Lucullian delight

For three summers, 1929-31, I worked at a produce stand in Santa Monica run by Mr. Kikuchi.

The concept of self-service, with customers free ranging and picking, had not reached the Pacific Coast yet, and the duties of the "boys" consisted of preparing and displaying the produce and waiting on the customers. Apple polishing was no metaphor, but an actual operation requiring elbow grease.

The work was hard. 13 hours a day, six days a week, and on my day off, I taught a half-day Japanese school in Monterey Park, 25 miles—or maybe more—away. Ah, youth! I took all this in stride.

But the pay was good, \$30 per week, with room (5 to a converted living room, sheet change once a week) and board (good country style fare. The cook was a woman from Kumamoto). How exceptionally good the pay was I later found out by comparing notes with friends. Mr. Kikuchi was only two or three years older than I, but he was already a big business man. And he was exceptionally generous.

Wilshire and 14th in Santa Monica was a

good middle class neighborhood in those days. I mean, I do not know how it is now. An elderly lady, Mrs. Larkin, was my favorite customer. There was something about her that was refined and genteel. After several encounters I knew she usually waited for me to be free.

One day, after she had paid for her purchases, she pressed something into my hand, saying "This is for you." It was a dollar bill. I had always been dull witted in many ways, and on this occasion it took me a second or two to realize that I'd been tipped. In those days I was a habitual blusher. Blood rushed to my face. I ran after her as she walked to her car. Catching up with her I said, "Mrs. Larkin, I cannot accept this." and dropped the bill into her bag. She no doubt noted my agitation, and did not force the tip, but said quietly, "That was for your exceptional service. I wanted to show my appreciation." "I thank you for your thought," I said, probably a bit stiffly. "But your word of appreciation is enough for me. I am only doing what I am being paid for." And walked back into the store.

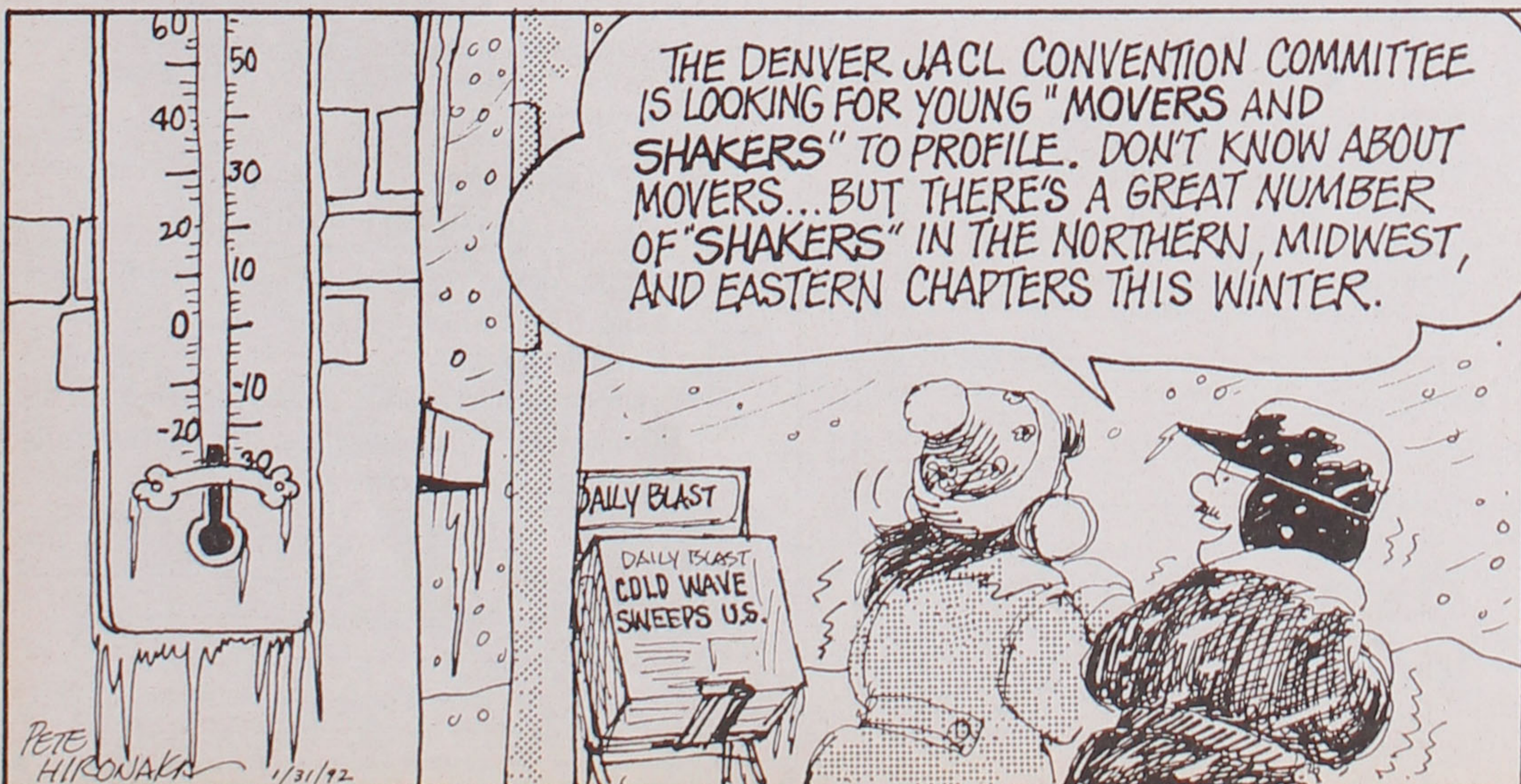
That was all there was to this simple

incident. I would soon have forgotten about it, but for its strange aftermath. Strange is the only way I can describe it, recalling it 60 years later today. Mr. and Mrs. Larkin invited me to dinner at their apartment.

Mr. Larkin was a retired businessman of scholarly appearance in his mid-sixties. I learned that he'd been a teacher once. Their apartment was large with fine furniture. What most impressed me was a separate study lined with book shelves.

All through my school years I bached. My idea of a treat in the way of food was the Leighton Cafeteria (4th and Hill) special, all you can eat for 45 cents. So the dinner was truly Lucullian to my primitive taste. Artichoke—I am proud to say I knew how to eat it. Artichoke was still a novelty. Many people did not know what to do with it. In fact my father was doing poorly, raising it, because of the public ignorance. Roast chicken, a real treat. Do you remember President Hoover's slogan, "Chicken every Sunday"? Mass production of poultry was still in experimental stage. Mushrooms, scalloped potatoes and a couple more items.

See MOSHI MOSHI/page 5



Personally speaking



• **Dr. Jack Fujimoto**, an educator since 1960, was inaugurated as the fifth president Nov. 1 at Los Angeles Mission College in Sylmar. Administering the oath was **Julia Wu**, president, Los Angeles Community College District board of trustee. He had been acting president in 1989 and previously served as vice chancellor and assistant to the college district chancellor, and was president of West Los Angeles College and Sacramento City College. Among his many community activities, he is chairing the board of advisors for Community College Education for New Californians and directing Partnership 2000, which links business, education, labor and government in better preparing students to enter the work force. He is president of the

Asian Pacific Association of the L.A. Community Colleges ... **Mark Matsui**, a Pasadena-born Sansei who headed the rehabilitation program for CSU Dominguez Hills students for eight years, was named coordinator for disabled students programs and services at Long Beach City College. He is a San Jose State graduate in psychology with a master's from CSULA in counseling with emphasis on rehabilitation.

• The Japanese Community Health Inc. awarded \$1,000 nursing scholarships at its Christmas party to **Kiyoko Nishi**, **Jean A. Shibusaki** and **Burton S. Okuno**. The awards were made possible from community support of the JCHI recognition dinner, according to **Joan A. Tanida**, R.N., scholarship committee chair ... The UCLA Asian Pacific Alumni awarded its first Sam Law leadership award to **Neera Tanden**, the senior who best exemplifies the leadership qualities of the late Sam Law to bring diverse peoples together to solve problems. Ms. Tanden is associated students external vice president and served as UC and State Lobby director.

• **Fumiko Shioya, 72**, a victim

of cerebral palsy, unveiled her book, "Fumi: A Tool in the Hand of God," at Huntington Convalescent Hospital-Senior Residence (18811 Florida Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92648), which her friends say is "there's probably no autobiography (which was) written in the manner as this one was." Crippled, she has never walked and cannot command her hand in writing; her speech is private at best. She communicates with a stylus attached to a head band and pointing to letters on an alphabet tray to spell words, which she does in English, Japanese and Spanish. Her friends assisted in compiling, editing and producing the book. Fumiko's parents came to Southern California in the 1900's, leaving three sons in Japan with relatives, when she was born in 1919. She was carried by her parents, enjoyed some freedom of movement in a baby walker at age 8, shielded by them while at Poston during WWII. Her mother died in 1945 at Norwalk State Hospital; her father died in 1954, leaving Fumi alone at Orange County hospital and then to her residence. Through missionary friends, she located her three brothers, Takajo was deceased but was able to communicate with Aisuke and Sumiji until their deaths, thus bridging a 40-year gap.

FUROR

(Continued from page 1)

wonder you voted for Sumitomo. "The mood of the American public is almost identical to the American public after Pearl Harbor was bombed. There was such an anti-Japanese feeling because of the war. Such a feeling is happening now because they're making it a war on the economy. It affects Japanese Americans," said Fukai.

"Back in 1942, we didn't have anyone sticking up for us. I'm certainly not going to have my grandchildren go through what I went through," said the aide.

Fukai referred to a poster contest for schoolchildren in County Supervisor Gloria Molina's district. Describing some of the posters, Fukai said that one depicted pictures of "kicking Japanese in the butt," and another made a reference to "bomb, bomb, bomb." "You can imagine my grandchildren, who are 12, 13, and 9, seeing this. I'm very proud of my Japanese heritage. It should not be an issue of Japanese heritage." Fukai noted that if any group had something to complain about with the Japanese, it was Japanese Americans who were sent to internment camps during World War II and now find themselves potential targets for current anti-Japanese sentiment.

"I shouldn't have to defend (my Japanese heritage.) Just because we have Asian faces, we're not Americans again. I'm not going to

let that happen. I hope Asian Americans and Japanese Americans rise up and make a little noise."

REACTIONS

(Continued from page 1)

in Japan making irresponsible comments. They need to evaluate the propriety of what they're saying."

From the Civil Rights Caucus

The Civil Rights Caucus of the Pacific Southwest District of JACL said, "The denegrating comments made by Speaker (Yoshio) Sakurauchi of Japan's House of Representatives last week about workers in the United States is reprehensible." The statement refers to comments made by Sakurauchi saying that "The United States is Japan's subcontractor" and "30 percent of the U.S. workforce are illiterate." The speaker later denied making the comments.

The Civil Rights Caucus called for Sakurauchi to "rectify the insult" saying, "The ease of impunity in which Sakurauchi ridicules our nation does nothing to contribute to the increasing tensions between the United States and Japan. His comments will have further serious and injurious effects here in the United States for the Japanese American/Pacific Islander communities. These consequences, in certain cases, have revealed themselves in terms of

race prejudice, hate crimes, and anti-Asian violence." Co-signing on the letter included: Trisha Murakawa, chair of the Civil Rights Caucus, George Johnston, Neil Sugimoto, and Warren Wong.

SEATTLE

(Continued from page 1)

Series."

Voicing the opinion of many who want to see the Mariners stay in Seattle, Shimizu said, "I think generally, the reaction has been, according to the press, a favorable reaction. It's been positive news; this may be the only way for them to stay here. It was the first real offer that's come through."

"Fourteen-hundred work for Nintendo. It's a small work force, but highly sophisticated. It's a boon to the Northwest to have the main facility here. If Nintendo were to purchase it, the son-in-law, (Minoru Arakawa, president of Nintendo America) a resident of King County, would be a local owner. There's a lot of positive to come out of that," said Shimizu.

The regional director said that many businessmen welcome business from Japan and that recently there has been an influx of tourists from Japan because of the TV series, *Twin Peaks*.

"I think the Pacific Northwest in general has good relations with Japan. It actually has a surplus with Japan, it's been a profitable endeavor in the state."

MOSHI MOSHI

(Continued from page 4)

Mrs. Larkin really put herself out to entertain this struggling student, for the nonce a mere produce market clerk.

Their hospitality was so genuine that only a few minutes into the salad I had lost all my inhibitions. I talked a lot, although I do not exactly remember on what subjects. When the conversation moved to literature, it gave Mr. Larkin a handy launching pad for his pet subject, the theory that Sir Francis Bacon was the true author of the Shakespeare plays. All the arguments were half convincing, but the most interesting was the evidence of the acrostics. He brought out his well-thumbed volume of the collected works, took several passages seemingly at random, ran an acrostic of the beginning letters, and lo and behold, it spelled Francis Bacon.

The long evening finally had to end. As I was about to take leave, Mr. Larkin went into the study and brought out a thick tome. It was a brand new volume of the collected works of Shakespeare, including the sonnets. On the fly leaf was written in a strong hand:

To Gene Konomi, in memory of this evening, August, 1931.

From Tom Larkin.

For years I kept on speculating on the reason for the dinner. I supposed that this is what happened. Mrs. Larkin told Mr. Larkin about my strange reaction to her goodwill offering. Mr. Larkin, being a scholar, must have known something of the samurai ethos, and guessed that I was of that class. Still, Mrs. Larkin had been acting strictly according to American social etiquette, and by its rules I might have acted with boorishness. They made amends for her unintentional gaffe, at the same time forgave my rudeness, due to ignorance, by inviting me to the dinner. But not a word was said about the incident during the

evening.

If it was so, they showed an admirable tact. But I may be all wrong.

Three weeks later I returned to my Los Angeles pad. A few friends who needed a place to stay during the summer had kept up the rent, sparing me the worry of finding a new lodging. Nine months later I graduated into a cruel world in the grip of the worst depression in history. Between unemployment and temporary jobs, usually 2 or 3 week replacement at produce markets my life was a nightmare of sheer survival until I was picked up by the Kashu Mainichi in August, 1933.

I never opened the collection of Shakespeare plays. It stayed in the bottom of my old suitcase for many years. And in the continuous itinerations of the war time and later I lost it. Now that I often have time on hand, I sorely miss that book, and remember Mr. and Mrs. Larkin, and the wonderful dinner they gave me—60 years ago. (C)



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