



Pacific Citizen

National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League

Whites get most
L.A. sports office
jobs—p. 3

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701 East 3rd Street, Suite 201, Los Angeles, CA 90013

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Friday, January 22, 1993

Doris Matsui appointed to Clinton White House staff

Doris Matsui, who has served on President-elect Bill Clinton's Transition Board for the past two months, was named to Clinton's White House staff Jan. 14.

Matsui will become deputy assistant to the president and White House deputy director of public liaison after Clinton is sworn in as president Jan. 20.

The White House public liaison office is the president's link to his constituents. It is charged with reaching out to constituent groups and building coalitions supportive of the president's policy initiatives and legislative agenda. In her capacity as deputy director of public liaison, Matsui will make policy recommendations regarding constituency concerns, develop public relations strategies, and speak on the president's

behalf to groups across the country.

"Public liaison will be an active and aggressive part of the activities within the White House," said Matsui. "Bill Clinton is committed to extending the presidency to the American people and to reviving a grass roots interest in government."

Matsui is the wife of Congressman Robert T. Matsui (D-Calif.) (C)



MATSUI

JACL applauds Clinton appointments

Responding to President-elect Bill Clinton's nomination of Doris Matsui and Shirley Sagawa for government positions, JACL National Director Dennis Hayashi said that "We are very encouraged about the appointments. ... President-elect Clinton has taken a significant step towards fulfilling his commitment to making sure that his administration looks like the face of America."

Matsui was named deputy assistant to the president for public liaison and

Sagawa as special assistant to the president for domestic policy. They are the first Asian Pacific Americans to be nominated for posts in the new administration.

Matsui has been serving as a member of the president-elect's Transition Board. She is a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley and has been active in public service for more than 20 years. She is a long-time advocate for women's health issues and for children.

See JACL/page 8

Takasugi: his 1st days on the job

By HARRY K. HONDA
Editor emeritus

LA MIRADA, Calif.—His first days in Sacramento legislature as the first Asian American assemblyman in a decade were related by longtime Ventura County JACler Nao Takasugi, the main speaker at the Jan. 16 Selanoco Chapter,



TAKASUGI

JACL, installation dinner at the Gateway Plaza Holiday Inn.

Republican Takasugi of the 37th District said he intends to introduce a bill that addresses the budget impasse endured last year when the constitutional deadline for adoption by June 30 was ignored. He is calling for the salary of the governor and legislators not be paid for each day the budget is not adopted by June 15.

One of the 27 new members in the Assembly (14 Democrats and 13 Republicans), he explained the spirit and mood in the freshman caucus is a factor new in Sacramento because of term limitation for state legislators. He put it this way: "The clout of the freshmen in the legislature is for real."

Ed Shiba, re-elected Selanoco

See TAKASUGI/page 3

Gail Ideno named JACL fund-raiser

Gail Ideno, a former assistant account executive with Foote, Cone & Belding Direct West, has been appointed JACL director of fund development, according to Dennis Hayashi, national director.

In her position, Ideno will be responsible for the organization's fund-raising efforts as well as the donor data base and gift acknowledgement program, public relations activities, and assisting the JACL Legacy Fund Committee.

A Chicago native, Ideno gradu-

See IDENO/page 8

A sign of the times . . .



Photos: SANDRA TANAMACHI NAKATA

. . . in a Texas town

Despite local JACL protests, 'Jap Road,' 'Jap Lane' remain in towns near Beaumont, Texas

By GWEN MURANAKA
Assistant editor

You're hungry, so you hear about a restaurant with spicy, blackened catfish and a blueberry cobbler like your mother never made—but wait a minute—it's on Jap Road, "waaaay down to Jap Road," as the signs and commercials for the Boondocks Restaurant tell you. Makes you lose your appetite doesn't it?

Jap Road is located in Beaumont, Texas, a city on the Gulf Coast near the Louisiana border. There is also a Jap Lane in neighboring Vidor, known for its concentration of Ku Klux Klan. The Boondocks is a popular restaurant which happens to be on Jap Road and advertises on local TV.

Elementary school teacher and Houston Chapter, JACL, member Sandra Tanamachi Nakata, a resident of Beaumont, finally decided

enough is enough and is trying to change the names of the roads.

Although the roads have been around for a long time, the school teacher said she first became vocal about Jap Road after a political cartoon touting the "grand reopening" of the internment camps ran in the local paper in March '92.

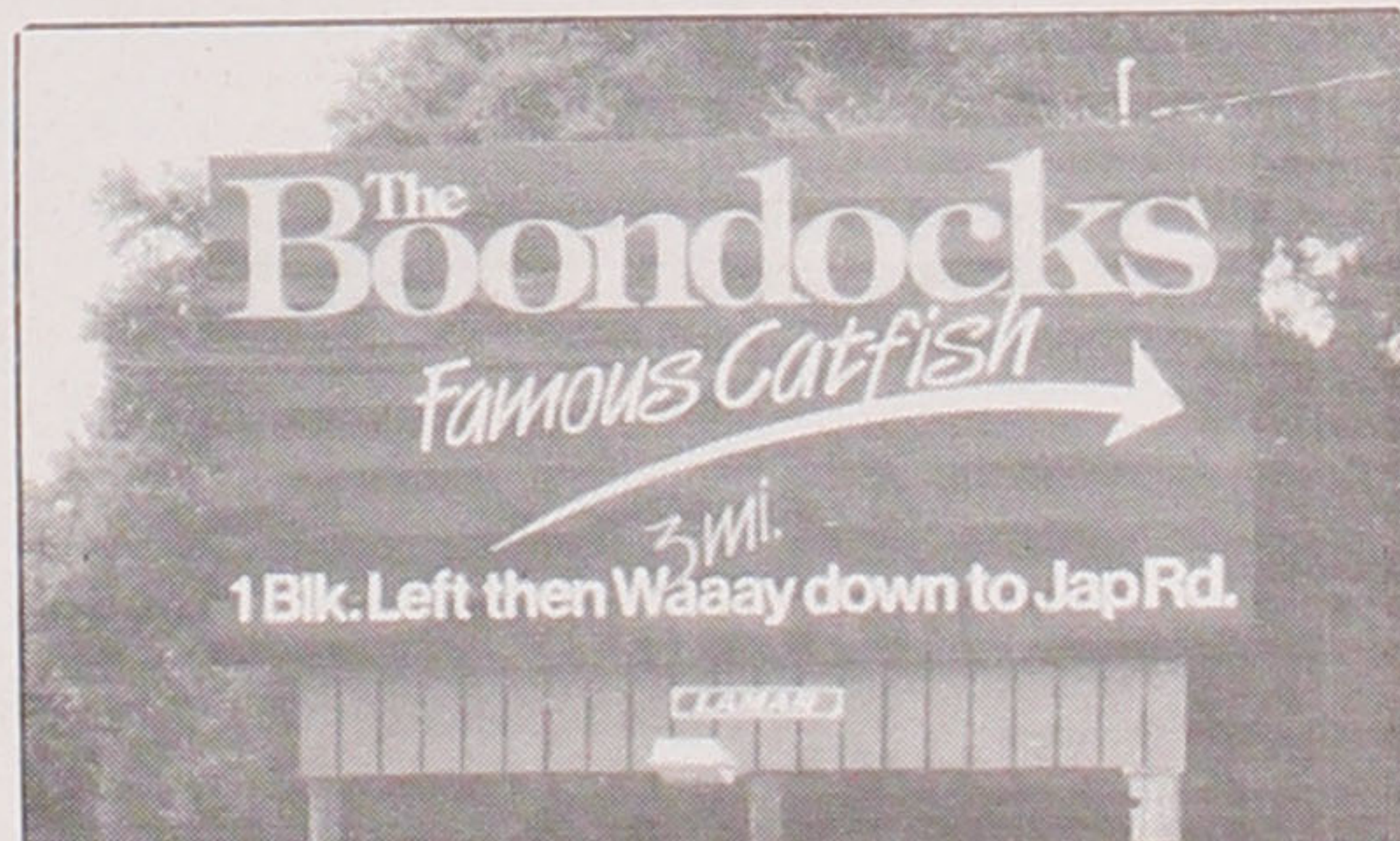
"When I didn't do anything my conscience started bothering me, I didn't feel right inside," said Tanamachi Nakata. "Once I did it, there's no turning back. At different times I will get negative reactions, but that's part of it."

Tanamachi Nakata said that she has received so many harrassing phone calls that

she has had to unlist her phone number. A second grade teacher at Blanchette Elementary School, Tanamachi Nakata has also received calls at her work. "I've gotten phone calls at school, telling me to leave and go back to my own country. The secretary at school told them, 'This is her country.'"

Relating an incident that occurred in a local school supply store, she said, "A few of the workers there aren't supportive of (changing the name of Jap Road). They came right behind me and started telling Japanese

See SIGN/page 4



TAKING OFFENSE—Road sign, top photo, and billboard in Texas show that insulting word is still seen today.

"I've gotten phone calls at school, telling me to leave and go back to my own country. The secretary at school told them, 'This is her country.'"

—Sandra Tanamachi Nakata

No. 2,694

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Calendar

Illinois

Chicago

Fri.-Sun., Sept. 3-5—Sixth National JACL Singles Convention, Chicago Marriott Hotel, 540 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60611.

New York

New York

Through May 30—The Chinatown History Museum's photographic exhibitions, "From Canton to New York: The Broken Tradition," and "The People of Tong Yeh Gaai," 70 Mulberry St., 2nd floor, Sun.-Wed., noon-5 p.m. Information: 212/619-4785.

Pennsylvania

Philadelphia

Sunday, Jan. 31—Philadelphia Chapter, JACL, sponsors a trip to see Lane Nishikawa's "I'm on a Mission from Buddha," Painted Bride Art Center, 230 Vine St., 7 p.m. Group rate (15 people): \$12. Information: Jane, 215/848-2567.

Wisconsin

La Crosse

Thurs.-Sat., March 25-27—University of Wisconsin-La Crosse sponsors the conference, "Asian Americans: probing the past, living the present, shaping the future." Registration and information: Penny Tiedt, Continuing Education and Extension, 227 Main Hall, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, La Crosse, WI 54601; 608/785-6503.

Arizona

Phoenix

Saturday, Feb. 6—Arizona Chapter, JACL, hosts the PSW district meeting, Radisson Phoenix Hotel, 3333 E. University, Phoenix, 1 p.m. Dinner and show following meeting, Rocking R Ranch, \$18. Registration: \$5. Reservations: 602/437-8400. Information: Carol Saito, 213/626-4471.

Colorado

Boulder

Tuesday, Jan. 26—University of Colorado, Boulder, presents Artists Series featuring Gordon Hirabayashi lecturing on "Follow Your Gut Feeling," 7:30 p.m., Duane Physics, room G030, on campus. Panel discussion following Wednesday, Jan. 27, 7:30 p.m., Courtroom, CU-Boulder School of Law. Both events free. Information: 303/492-8008.

Denver

Friday, Jan. 30—Japanese Association of Colorado's New Year's party, Sue Lee's, 901 Bannock St., VFW Post #1, 5:30 p.m. Tickets: \$18. Information: Gladys Taniwaki, 303/298-1855 or 295-1845; Sadako Tsubokawa, 303/420-1611; or Lil Masamori, 303/237-3041. Fri.-Sat., Jan. 30-31—Mile-Hi Chapter, JACL and the Denver Chapter, Organization of Chinese Americans' Chinese New Year's Dinner, China Terrace Restaurant, Writer Square, 1512 Larimer, Denver, 6 p.m. Cost: \$25. Information: Tom Masamori, 303/237-3041; Harry Tu, 303/355-2055; or Sumi Takeno, 303/777-1861.

California

Sacramento

Thursday, Feb. 28—Florin Buddhist Church Dharma School's 10th annual crab feed, Florin Y.B.A. Hall, 7235 Pritchard Rd., 5 p.m. Cost: \$22. Dinner, dance, and raffle. Information: 916/383-1831.

San Jose

Sat.-Sun., Jan. 30-31—West Valley JACL, the Next Generation's coed volleyball tournament, San Jose State University, 7 p.m. Information: Tim Watanabe, 408/723-0327.

Saturday, Feb. 6—San Jose Chapter, JACL, 70th anniversary celebration, Hyatt Hotel. JACL National President Lillian Kimura to participate. Guest speaker: Sen. Daniel Inouye; Jan Yanehiro, emcee. San Jose Taiko Group performs. No-host cocktail, 6:30 p.m., program, 7:30 p.m. Dancing, 9:45 p.m. Tickets: \$50 per person donation. Contact chapter at 565 N. 5th St., or call 408/295-1250.

Sunday, April 18—Yu Ai-Kai's 14th annual benefit luncheon and fashion show, Red Lion Inn, San Jose. Tickets: \$35. Tickets available now at the Yu Ai-Kai office, 565 N. 5th St. Information: 408/294-2505.

San Francisco

Sunday, Feb. 7—Nisei Widowed Group monthly meeting, 2-4 p.m., New members, men and women welcome. Information: Elsie Uyeda Chung, 415/221-0268, or Yuri Moriaki, 510-482-3280.

Sat.-Sun., Feb. 13-14—The National Japanese American Historical Society sponsors a Kanojo spring fashion show, Miyako Hotel, San Francisco, 1 p.m., both days. Free. Information: NJAHS, 415/431-5007.

Saturday, Feb. 27—Sequoia Chapter JACL's annual crab and spaghetti fundraiser, Palo Alto Buddhist Temple, Louis Rd., 5 p.m. Information: Don Miyamoto, 408/738-4334 or Tats Hori,

415/948-6575. JACL officers to be installed.

Los Angeles

Thursday, Jan. 28—PSW-JACL Welcome to the community reception for Lillian Kimura, JACL national president, JACCC, Little Tokyo, 6 p.m. Information: 213/626-4471.

Saturday, Jan. 30—Puente Hills Mall offers an Asian arts festival, City of Industry, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Highlights include: "Sands of the Orient," sand sculpture, Robinson's Court and the "Korean Classical Music and Dance Company," lower level, Broadway Court, 2 p.m. Free to the public.

Thursday, Feb. 4—Marina Chapter, JACL's general meeting, Burton Chace Park, Marina Del Rey, 7:30 p.m. Self defense demo by Sylvia Deily, instructor for Impact Personal Safety Organization. Donation collected at door. Information: Alice, 310/324-0582.

Saturday, Feb. 6—Pianist Glenn Horiuchi performs with samisen artist Lillian Nakano, Harbor College Recital Hall, 1111 Figueroa Pl., Wilmington, 8 p.m. Cost: \$6. Information: 310/532-0707.

Saturday, Feb. 6—The Amerasian League and the SCAN Chapter, JACL present, "Matters of Color," an evening of readings on the Asian American feminist experience, Midnight Special Books Cultural Center, 1318 Third Street Promenade, Santa Monica, 7 p.m. Writers include: Jude Narita and Velina Hasu Houston.

Saturday, Feb. 6—Japan American Symphony Orchestra with violinist Tamaki Kawakubo, Japan America Theatre, Little Tokyo, 8 p.m. Information: 213/489-5660.

Whereabouts

Seeking Japanese Americans who lived in the Phoenix, Ariz., area during World War II who were not forced to relocate, particularly those who resided north of Grand Avenue (for example, Peoria, Glendale, Phoenix) or north of Main Street (for example, Mesa), and all others.

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Study: Whites dominate L.A. sports positions

Amateur Athletic Foundation says minorities under-represented in major non-playing jobs

By **BARRY ZEPEL**
Special to the Pacific Citizen

Whites control every top level position in Los Angeles sports organizations, according to a study conducted by the Amateur Athletic Foundation (AAF) of Los Angeles.

The study also found that while African Americans, Latinos and Asian Americans comprise about 53 percent of the population and about half of the civilian labor force in greater L.A., they occupied only 33 percent of the administrative, coaching and support positions in the sports organizations.

The AAF study, entitled, "Racial hiring practices of Los Angeles area sports organizations," was begun in late 1991. It examined the non-player personnel of L.A. area high school, intercollegiate and professional-level sports organizations during their respective 1990-91 sports seasons.

Included in the study were seven L.A.-area professional teams (Los Angeles Dodgers, California Angels, Los Angeles Lakers, Los Angeles Clippers, Los Angeles Rams, Los Angeles Raiders and Los Angeles Kings), three L.A. Division I universities (UCLA, USC and Loyola Marymount), and 47 high schools of the Los Angeles Unified School District.

'This report calls attention to the need for the people who run sports in this country to fully commit themselves to providing truly equal opportunity.'

—Anita L. DeFrantz

On the professional level, according to the study, the sole or primary owner of all seven sports teams was white; the chief executive officer for six of the seven teams was white and one was African American; and white executives held 43, or 80 percent, of the 54 senior executive positions.

On the intercollegiate level, the position of athletic director at all three universities was held by a white male, while 86 percent of the sports' teams head coaches were white, six percent were black, and eight percent were Latinos or Asian Americans. At the high school level, 35 (74 percent) of the 47 high school athletic directors were white, six (13 percent) were African American, two (four percent) were Latino, and four (nine percent) were Asian American.

However, according to Dr. Wayne Wilson, editor of the study and AAF vice president of research and library services, L.A. area sports staffs were more racially diverse than their counterparts nationally at the professional and intercollegiate levels (comparisons at the high school level were not possible due to lack of national data).

According to Anita L. DeFrantz, AAF president: "This report calls attention to the need for the people who run sports in this country to fully commit themselves to providing truly equal opportunity. Sports organizations are highly visible threads in our social fabric. They ought to take a leadership role in ensuring that everyone in our society has a chance to participate fully."

The AAF, at the outset of the project, sought the cooperation of each of the sports organizations

selected for study. Before publishing the results, the AAF gave each organization an opportunity to review and comment on its own statistics. All of them, except the Angels and Raiders, provided information.

A copy of the AAF study is available by telephoning the AAF at 213/ 730-9696, or by writing to: AAF, Racial Hiring Study, 2141 W. Adams Blvd., Los Angeles CA 90018-2040.

The Amateur Athletic Foundation is endowed with Southern California's share of the surplus from the 1984 Olympic Games. The foundation awards grants to youth sports organizations, initiates its own youth sports programs and manages Paul Ziffren Sports Resource Center Library.

Zepele is communications director for the Amateur Athletic Foundation of Los Angeles.

GOOD GOING— Hiroshi Kamei, second from left, presents awards to Ken Inouye, left, B.J. Watanabe, second from right, and Charles Ida for their distinguished service to the SELANOCO Chapter, JACL, and their respective communities.

Photo: Alvina Lew



TAKASUGI

(Continued from page 1)

JACL president, acknowledged the stellar member involvement this past year on anti-Asian violence in the chapter's "backyard" — North Orange County. The chapter, which had held a forum in July on the problem, was able to assist when a Japanese American in the county was assaulted later in the year. "Continued involvement by Sansei and Yonsei is needed," he declared.

Pacific Southwest Gov. Carol Kawamoto of San Diego swore in

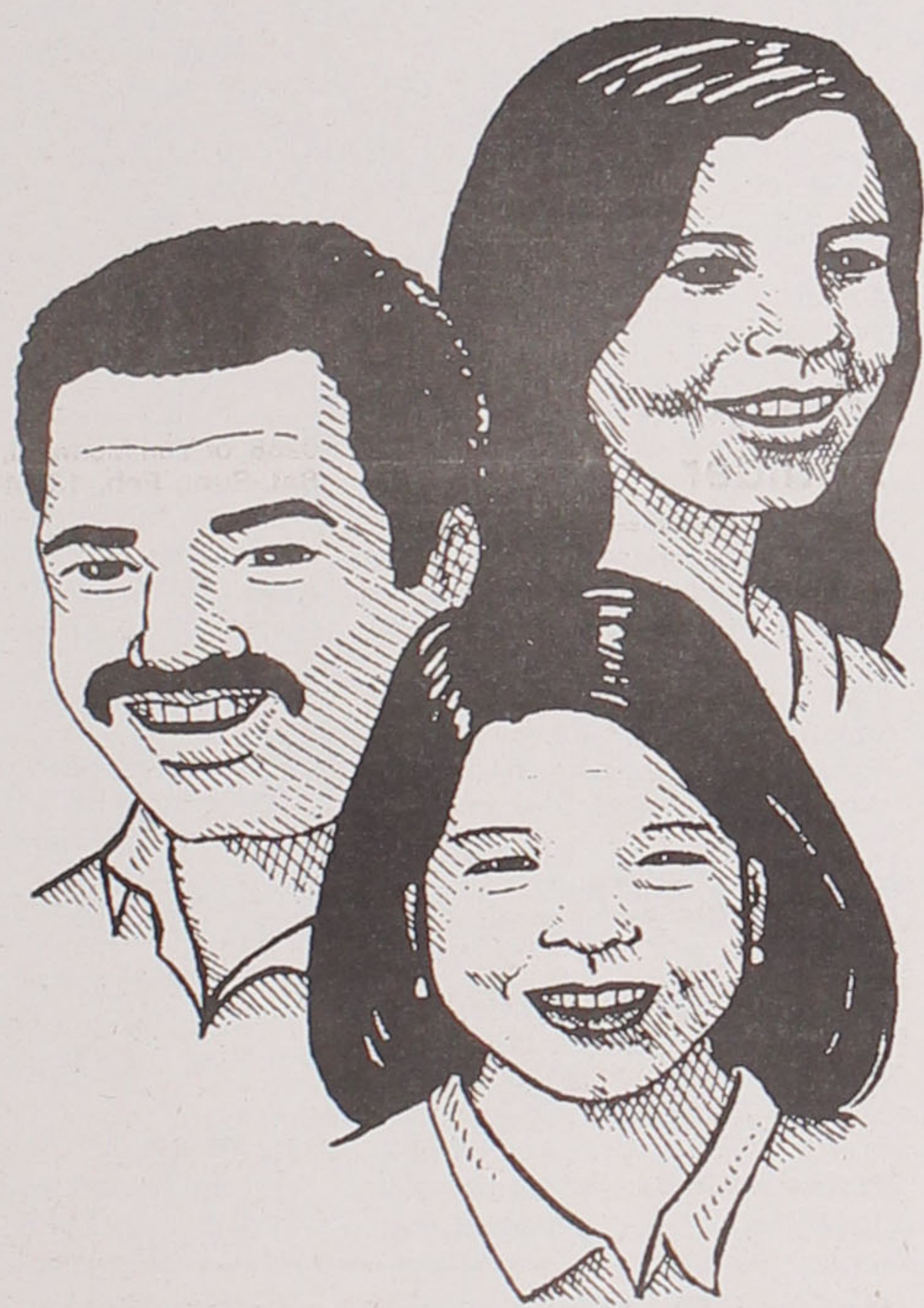
the new board members. Hiroshi Kamei presented awards to Ken Inouye, B.J. Watanabe and Charles Ida for their distinguished community or chapter services.

Other program participants included past PSW governor Ken Inouye, who introduced the guest speaker; nonagenarian Takito Yamaguma, one-time Downtown L.A. JACL president, reciting his late wife's Japanese poem that had a proverb for living each day of the month; Judge Richard Hanki and his inimitable lines as master of ceremonies, invocation by the Rev. Steve Yamaguchi of Grace Presbyterian Church and

benediction by the Rev. Carl Omaye of Anaheim Japanese Free Methodist Church.

Omaye is remembered as the first Nisei to work on the floor of the House of Representative as a congressional page in 1958 to Rep. Charles Bennett (D, Fla.-3d) of Jacksonville.

Hanki is remembered for riding out Hurricane Iniki last September as it blew across Kauai where he had gone to vacation. He was able to tell his family at home of his well-being by talking to a *Los Angeles Times* reporter who was on the island for a story. ☐



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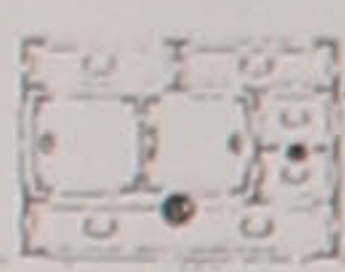
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SIGN

(Continued from page 1)

jokes.”
Jap Road, a small rural road, was where Yasuo Mayumi came in 1905 to grow oranges and rice. Gwendolyn Wingate of the *Beaumont Enterprise* noted that many initially wary cowboys stopped at the Mayumi farm where they knew they could get food and drink.

Jap Lane is the location of the agricultural colony founded 1908 by Kichimatsu Kishi. A State Historical Commission plaque says the Kishi colony was “instrumental in the economic growth of Orange County.”

In a recent development, Tanamachi Nakata said that the signs on Jap Lane had been taken down, although she remains skeptical. “They claim they have taken it down. But it’s still there in the maps. It’s still listed that way. And you still do write Jap Lane for the mail to get there.”

According to Betty Waki, president of the Houston Chapter, JACL, it is ironically one of the Kishi family members who is against changing the name of Jap Lane.

“They donated land and money for the first school, built the first church and that’s why the Klan left them alone. It’s given them this attitude that they’re immune to what’s happening to the rest of us,” said Waki, speaking from Houston.

In a letter to Tanamachi Nakata, Mark Domingue, Jefferson County commissioner, said, “I am in sympathy with your sentiments. But the backlash from forcing something unwanted on these long time residents could outweigh the benefits.”

Waki said, an in-law of one of the Kishi descendants, Betsy Hirasaki, who is white, has said that she has no problem with Jap Lane.

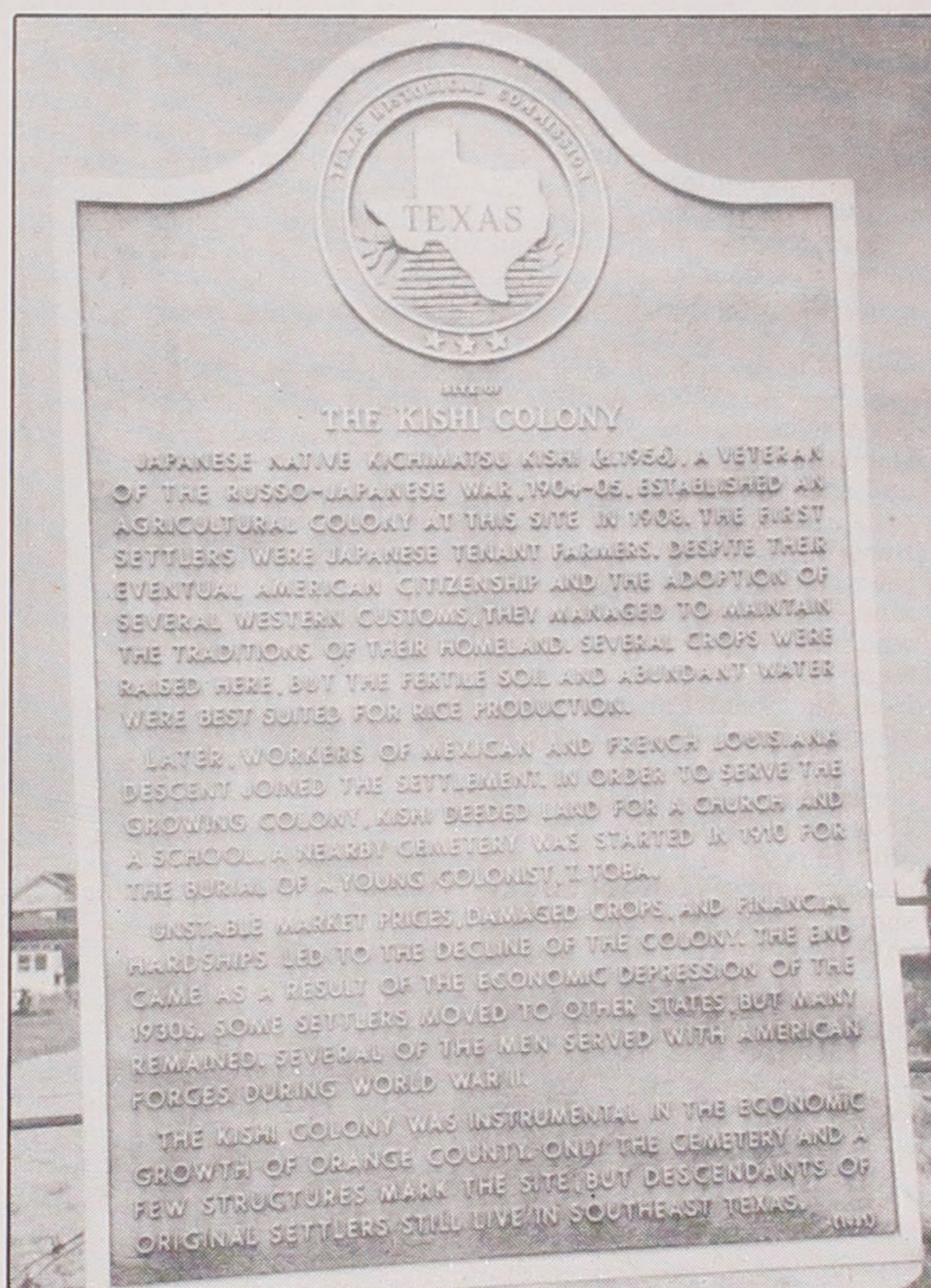
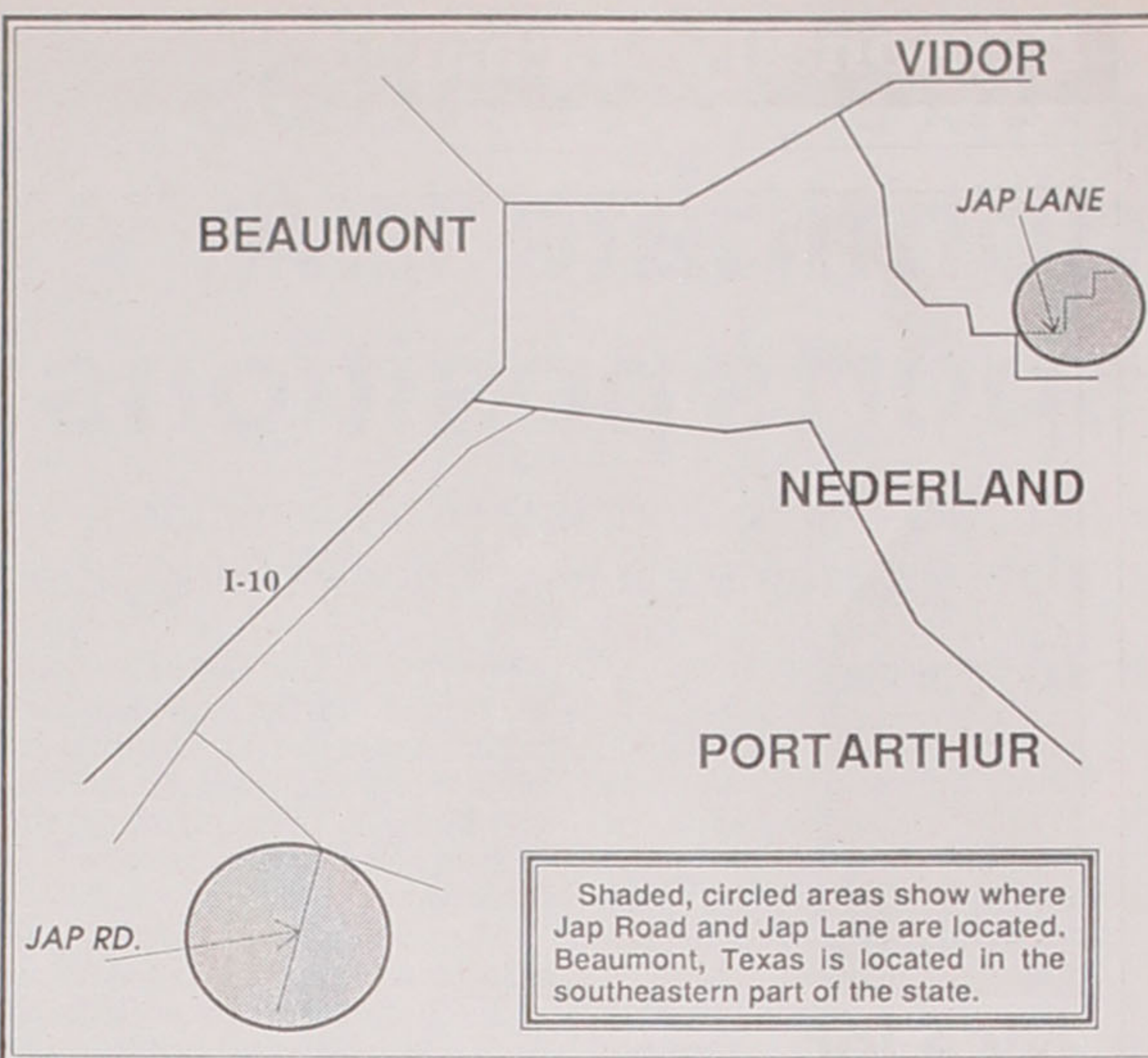
“It’s fashionable to bash political correctness, that you’re being overly sensitive, but the name of that road affects all of us. The Hirasakis may not live on Jap Lane one day, but the name will still be there.”

Waki met with Taro Kishi, the 90-year old patriarch and son of the original founder last summer. Noting the historical significance of the Kishi colony, Waki said an appropriate solution to the problem would be to honor the Kishi family.

“We’re taking a slow approach, sensitive to the fact that it could be a potentially dangerous situation for the people living there,” said Waki. The Houston Chapter president said the chapter is working on the big oil companies near Beaumont interested in increasing their global standing and also the sister city tie Beaumont has with a city in Japan.

Another difficulty in the process is that, despite their proximity to Beaumont, neither Jap Lane or Jap Road are in the city of Beaumont, so changes have to be made at the county level.

Highlighting the mindset of some of the local Beaumont residents, J.L. Badon wrote in a letter to the local newspaper in defense of Jap Road, “They meant to point out that Japanese lived on that road. They used Jap to shorten the name (like my name, Joseph,



HISTORICAL MARKER—In spite of the two racially insulting road signs, this Texas monument notes Kishi Colony, settled by Japanese American pioneers in Southeast Texas.

they call me Joe.”

While Tanamachi Nakata has heard from many opponents, she also has many local supporters of her cause, including teachers at Blanchette Elementary and her own school children. One of her children suggested that the names of the roads should be changed to American Road and American Lane.

Tanamachi Nakata has also received letters of support from Gov. Bill Clinton; Barbara Harberg, regional director, Anti-Defamation League; Rep. Robert Matsui, Rep. Jack Brooks, Clifford Uyeda, former national president, JACL, and Lillian Kimura, JACL national president. The school-teacher said that Kimura called

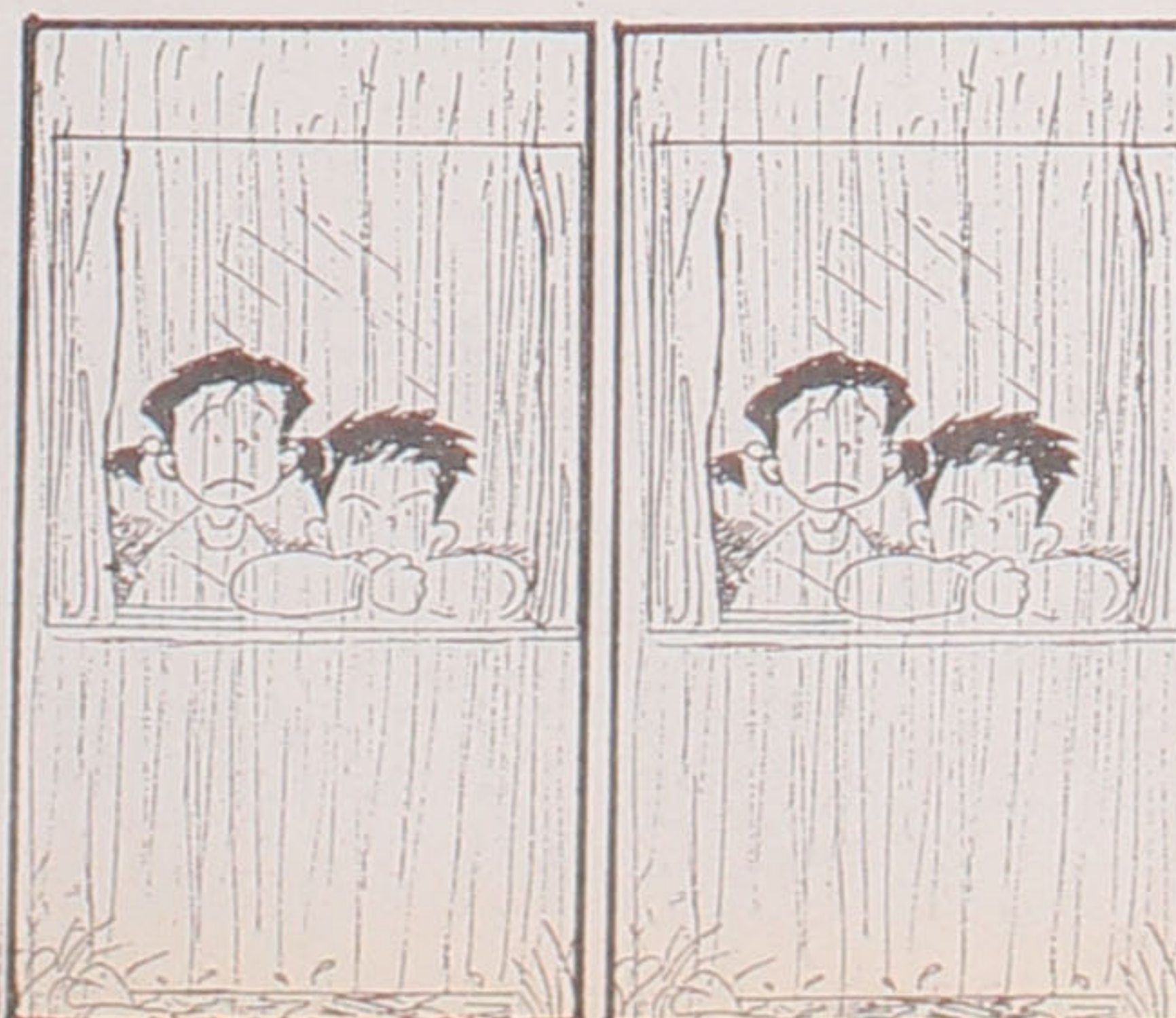
to offer national JACL's support.

I started teaching my children ‘A World of Difference,’ (supplement by the Anti-Defamation League) about fighting prejudice. And I thought I need to be acting on what I’m teaching my children,” said Tanamachi Nakata.

The signs will come down, assert both Waki and Tanamachi Nakata. “It’s gonna happen, I firmly believe it’s going to be changed,” said Waki.

Despite the harassment, Tanamachi Nakata is also optimistic. “Anyone who has taken up civil rights issues get this (harassment), that I know. But I know it’s going to be changed. It will take time, I just really know it will change so that’s what gives me hope.” (PC)

Small kid time



Gwen Muranaka



Personally speaking



Nice job

Lisa Kubokawa, a corporate banking officer at First Interstate Bank of California's Los Angeles office, receives the "Chairman's Community Reinvestment Award" for her volunteer support of small businesses in Southeast Los Angeles. Kubokawa is one of 12 people out of the bank's 10,000 employees statewide who have been chosen for this honor. In addition to her work at First Interstate, Kubokawa participated in a volunteer group called the Los Angeles Business Community Network formed to offer free consultation to businesses affected by the Los Angeles riots.

Sports

More than 25,000 runners hit the streets for the 20th annual Honolulu Marathon on Dec. 13; and about 18,000 were from Japan, according to Japan Travel Bureau, which said was the double the number of prior years. Honolulu resident **Kaz Minoyama**, 30, who finished his third run in about 3 and a half hours, said the start from Ala Moana Park was hectic. Winning time was 2h:14m.19s.

The Aloha Stadium Authority hopes the controversy over the \$50,000 renovation of stadium offices is over after longtime stadium manager **Ken Kiyabu** resigned under pressure Dec. 17 with the state announcing no fur-

clor in the press continues for legislative reform over the practice of non-bid contracts in state government.

Museums

Robert K. Murase, lead designer and principal of Murase Associates, has been named to manage the design and fabrication team for the upcoming 1993 traveling exhibit, "The Issei Pioneers in Oregon," organized by the Japanese American National Museum of Los Angeles. Murase is known for his landscape architectural projects throughout the United States, Japan, the Pacific Basic and the Caribbean.

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Opinions



From the frying pan

BILL HOSOKAWA

Tales of Karaoke and Catfish

It seems likely that George Bush must live with the indignity of being remembered in Japan as the American president who upchucked into Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa's lap before television cameras at a state dinner in Tokyo.

That's unfortunate because Bush did much to keep U.S.-Japanese relations from becoming rockier, even though he made the mistake of taking a gang of disgruntled automobile salesmen with him on his ill-fated final visit.

So a new era opens with Bill Clinton of Arkansas in the Oval Office. And even though he doesn't have much of a track record in foreign affairs, anecdotes about him are springing up from Japanese sources. Let me share two of them with you.

Ed Mitoma of Rancho Palos Verdes brought the first one to my attention. It was an item from the *Mainichi Daily News*, one of several English language newspapers published in Japan. The gist of it was that when Clinton, then governor of Arkansas, and his wife Hillary visited Osaka on a sales trip in 1988, their host for an evening was Satoshi Iue, president of the giant Sanyo Electric conglomerate.

One of their stops was a *karaoke* bar and

Iue is quoted in the story as saying "He (Clinton) fascinated other people by singing very well and playing the saxophone like a pro." The headline over the story: "Clinton big on *karaoke*."

It doesn't seem likely that Clinton would have had a sax in his luggage, but I suppose it's possible he could have borrowed the instrument from a member of the band, and also that in a first class establishment such as would be patronized by the president of Sanyo, there would be a band in addition to a *karaoke* machine.

Question: Had this story surfaced before the election, would the Republican campaign strategists have made something of it?

* * *

The second story has to do with Hirohisa Mitsuchi, who is familiar to many Americans in his important role as general manager of external affairs for Sumitomo Corp. Mitsuchi happened by coincidence to meet in Tokyo Dr. and Mrs. Alvah Nelson who attend Hillary Clinton's church in Little Rock. Mitsuchi became friendly with them to the extent that his son lived with the Nelsons for a year while attending high school.

On one of his visits to Little Rock Mitsuchi had dinner with the Nelsons at which another guest was Governor Clinton. Some months later Mitsuchi went to Little Rock with a Keidanren survey mission which was invited to the governor's mansion for a formal dinner.

Roast beef was scheduled to be served. Quite innocently, one of the Japanese guests indicated an interest in Arkansas catfish. Clinton was anxious to please his guests but of course it was too late to change the menu.

Then, according to Mitsuchi, someone on Clinton's staff came up with the perfect solution. Catfish tempura was served as hors d'oeuvres with the drinks and everyone was happy.

Mitsuchi's conclusion: Clinton can achieve the extremely difficult task of reducing the American fiscal deficit while increasing capital spending in the same way he harmonized catfish and roast beef—by choosing the right assistants. ☐

Hosokawa is the former editorial page editor of the Denver Post. His column appears weekly in the Pacific Citizen.

IN-SIGHT



From routine to flurry

By LILLIAN C. KIMURA
JACL National President

Recently, what was to be a routine visit to San Francisco for a personnel committee meeting and a conference with the executive director turned into a flurry of activity for me.

On my arrival staff informed me of a surprise reception for Sox Kitashima whose involvement in the community includes membership on the San Francisco JACL board. Sox was named one of the 1000 Points of Light, an honor bestowed by President Bush to an individual, non-profit group or company for "making a difference in their communities." Sox was nominated by the Office of Redress Administration, represented at the reception by Bob Bratt and Paul Suddes who also gave Sox an award from the Justice Department.

Organized by Carole Hayashino, it was a wonderful recognition of someone who does so much to make the Bay Area community a better place. Congratulations, Sox! (The day after, the buzz around Japan Town was whether Sox really was surprised and if so, the 350 attendees did a great job in keeping a secret.)

While at the reception, I was happy to meet Sue Hayashi and Roy Yoshino, siblings of the late Ruby Yoshino Schaar in whose memory a playwright award is administered by the New York Chapter. (The award was established to encourage talented playwrights to tell the story of the Japanese American/Canadian experience in North America. In 1992 the award was not given because the panel of judges was not able to arrive at consensus on the dramatic excellence of the manuscripts received.)

I also met Lily Abiko who told me that she learned through my column that her grand-nephew was following in the footsteps of her husband, Yas, and brother, Henry Tani, by being involved in JACL. She was so proud of Geoff Tani of Chicago.

On Saturday as I entered headquarters, I ran into JACLers Chizu and Ernie Iiyama, Mei Nakano, Mollie Fujioka, Pat Orr and Paul Igasaki who were attending a meeting to support Jean Ishibashi and her sexual harassment case against the American Friends Service Committee. AFSC was one of the few organizations during World War II to protest the internment and then worked on helping Nikkei in the resettlement process. It is very difficult to bring charges against respected organizations and people like Sen. Robert Packwood. However, harassment of any kind must not be tolerated.

After the personnel committee meeting, I stopped briefly at the memorial service for Dr. Kazue Togasaki to pay my respects to her surviving family. The Togasakis are a remarkable clan; I only hope their story is being preserved.

John Kiyasu, a former New York Chapter Board member now residing in San Francisco, invited me to a rehearsal of the J Town Jazz Ensemble at the community center. A saxophonist, John says he fills in when needed and enjoys doing so.

I was also delighted to see a fellow national board member from the '70s, George Yamasaki, Jr. During my first stint on the board, George was legal counsel. If I remember correctly, at the 1972 convention he was president of the San Francisco Chapter and brought the proposal for JACL to construct a headquarters building in Japan Town. I had forgotten that George is an accomplished jazz pianist. It was good to see both John and George.

Speaking of reunions, the personnel meeting allowed me to greet former Chicagoans, Richard and Karen Suzuki Okabe of Salt Lake City. As a specialist in human resources, Karen is on the committee. At one time, Richard was the national youth director.

Chaired by Neal Taniguchi, other members of the committee are Bob Sakaguchi

See KIMURA/page 8



East Wind

BILL MARUTANI

'Goh-ru-fu' updated

I DON'T RECALL when I first ever saw a golf course. Living in a farm community in the Pacific Northwest, there would be no occasion to be on one. Even if there were, we were too preoccupied with either schoolwork or farm work, which left little or no time for taking a half day off on the links. Anyway, there would be the matter of a set of golf clubs, green fees, and so on. And I haven't even mentioned the roadblock term that the parents would surely have interposed: *zei-taku* (extravagance, wasteful, etc.)

I HAVEN'T FOLLOWED up on what happened to the Pebble Beach golf course that Japanese interests acquired a few years ago in Monterey, California. As I recall, the Japanese investors had or were about to "take a bath" on the investment and were seeking a buyer—for about one-half of what the investors had paid for the golf course.

Well, things aren't that much better in Nippon either.

A WHILE BACK in this column, the subject was the golf mania in Japan. The sports department of major stores carried every golfing paraphernalia imaginable—

all very expensive. The driving "ranges" (actually, large enclosed cages with netting into which the golf balls were driven) in the metropolitan areas were filled at multi-levels, with the thwacks resounding. Membership in a golf club, particularly one that was not too distant from a metropolitan area, had waiting lists and average entrance fees ran into six figures (measured in U.S. dollars) and more. In such demand were such memberships that they became articles of commercial trading with brokers buying and selling club memberships. And making handsome commissions.

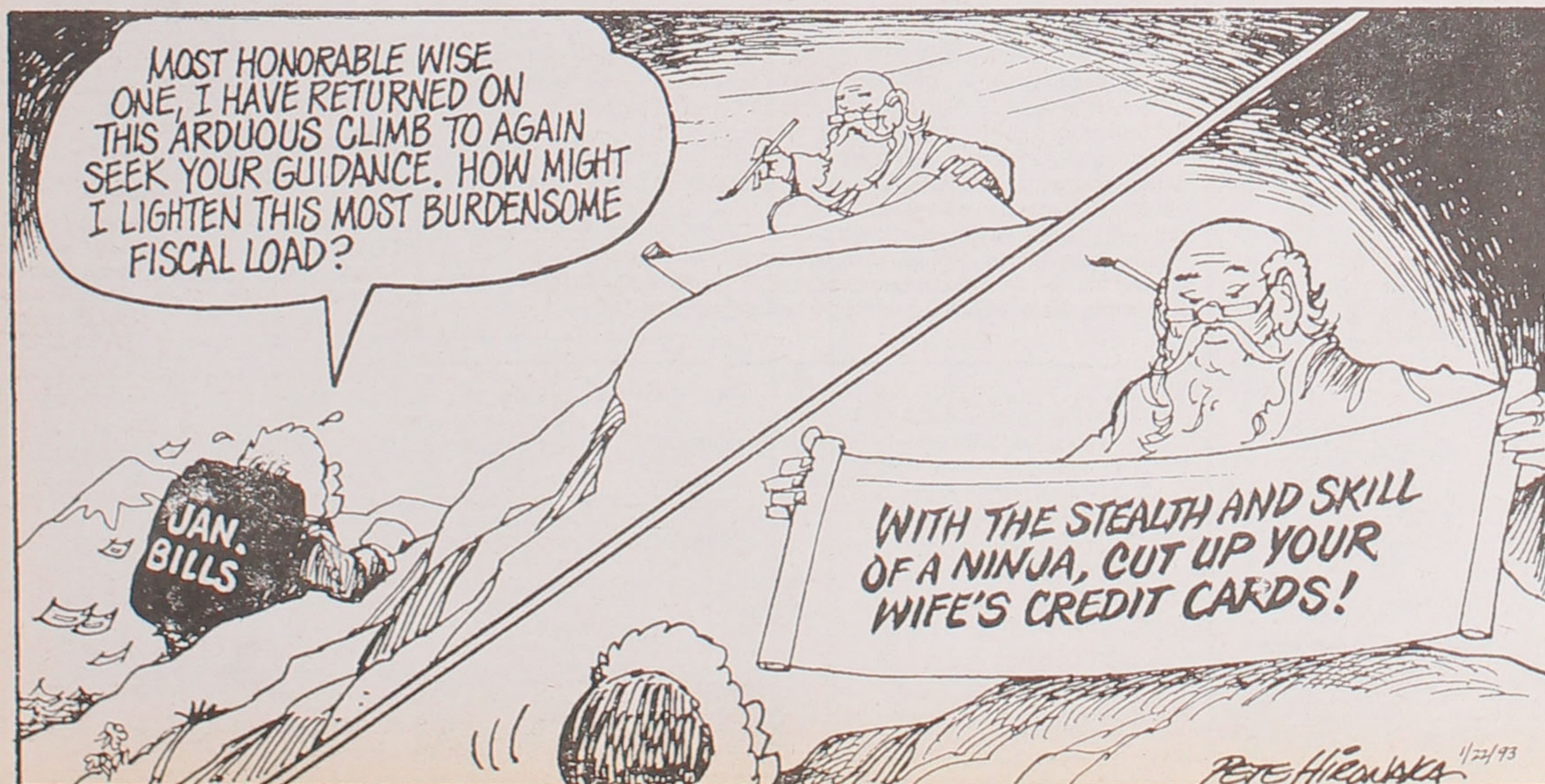
After all that high flying, the "golf market" in Japan itself has suffered a precipitous fall. So sharp and prolonged has been the fall that predictions are that unless the situation makes a turn-around (as it, in fact, did in the 1970's following the "oil shock"), then within the next five years, there will be *ha-san* (bankruptcy) filings among the golf entrepreneurs.

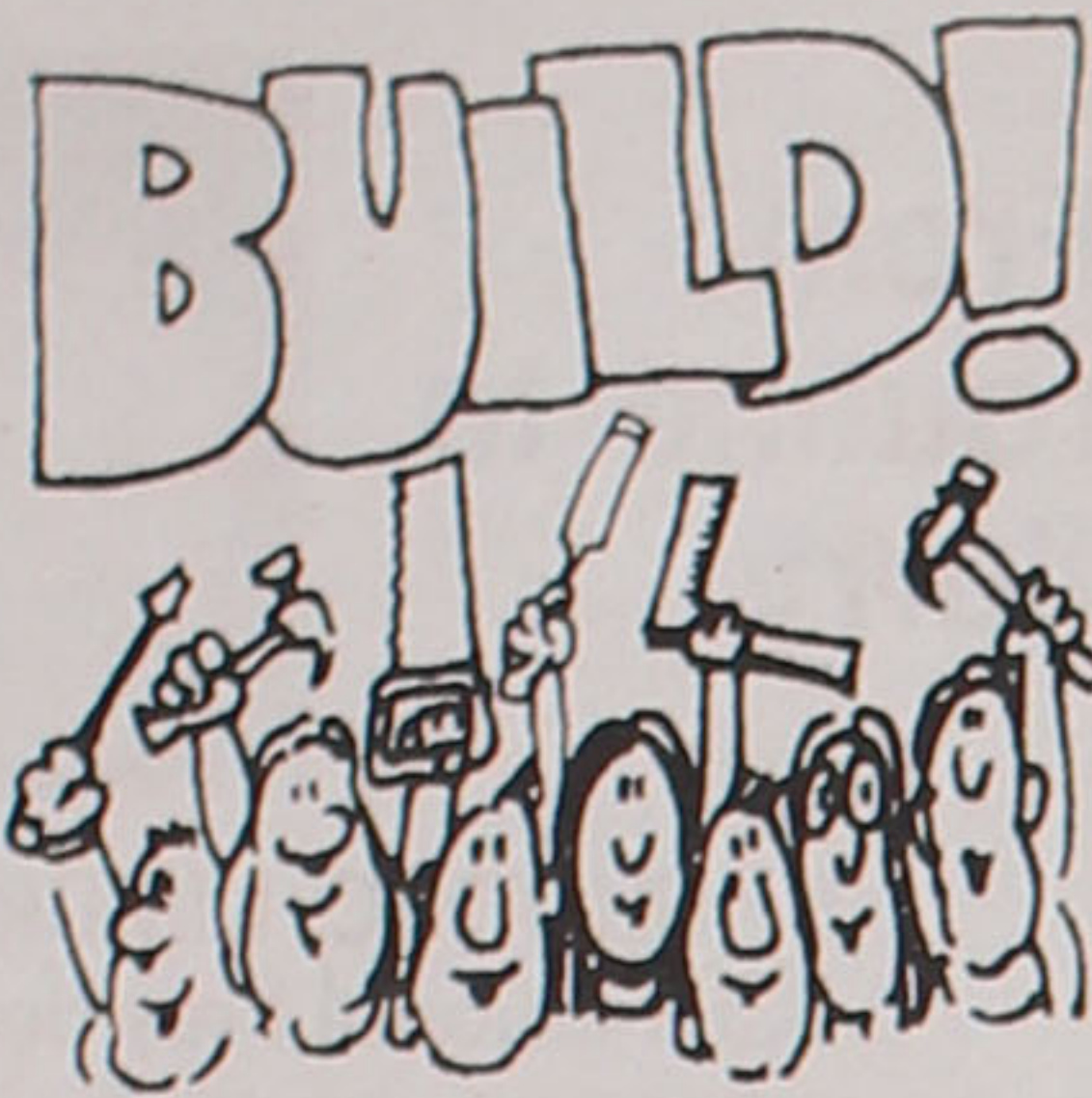
ABOUT THREE YEARS ago, the average cost for a golf club membership came to something above \$400 grand; today, that average has dropped to about \$170 grand,

almost a 60% drop. But don't dash out to buy a membership; predictions are that the price is yet to drop further. One giant operation in Gunma-ken (Asama Sports Arena Country Club) had the misfortune of entering the market at the top of the slide. At that point, the resort, with an 18-hole course, placed a membership entry tag of \$1.25 million—and that's still measured by U.S. dollars. Because of the ensuing economic slide with the resulting paucity of subscribers, the entry fee was cut back to a mere \$670 grand per membership. Even at such bargain basement rates, the word is that the resort complex will need to lower the entry rate a bit more in order to stir up some takers. However, at such sub-bargain rates, a member will not be entitled to use of club facilities—only access to the golf links. In which case such member might as well go back to that driving "range" cage.

Tennis, anyone? ☐

Marutani is a retired judge of the Court of Common Pleas in Philadelphia. His column appears regularly in Pacific Citizen.



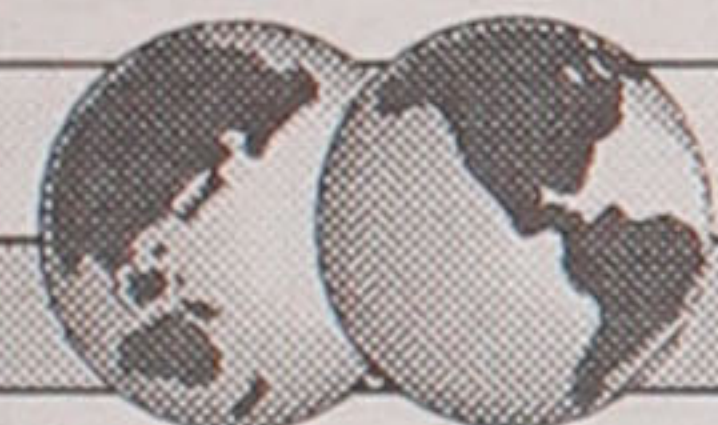


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**More
Classified Ads
— Page 8**

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9—Real Estate

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More Classified Ads (Continued from page 7)

9—Real Estate

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Obituaries

Fujikawa, Haru, 100, Gardena, Dec. 14; Yamaguchi-born Issei pioneer, survived by sons John, Jim, daughters Fumiko Matsumura, Barbara Kobayashi, 18 gc., 24 great-gc., 3 great-great gc., in-laws: son Juichi Imamoto, Fred K Kita, daughter Chiyoko Fujikawa.

Fujiwara, Masaakira, 93, Gardena, Dec. 12; Hawaii-born, survived by wife Helen, sons Thomas (San Diego), John (New York), Wayne (Chicago), daughter Jean Nojiri.

Hiromoto, Seiroku, 92, Los Angeles, Dec. 15; Wakayama-born naturalized U.S. citizen, survived by sons Tadashi, Noriyuki, daughters Tazuko Yoshimura, Yoko Nakamura, 4 gc., 19 great-gc., 2 great-great-gc., sister Miyoko Fujii.

Ikuhara, Akihiro 'Ike', 55, Los Angeles, Oct. 26; Fukuoka-born longtime assistant to Dodger Baseball Club president Peter O'Malley, joined the Dodgers in 1965 as aide to then President Walter O'Malley, coordinated Dodgerstown visits by Tokyo Giants in '70s, '81, Samsung Lions '85, and Chunichi Dragons '88; helped establish first grass baseball field in PRC's Tianjin in 1986, the Matsumae Baseball Field in Moscow in 1989, and Taiwan's first professional baseball in Taiwan.

Imamura, Toshio, 72, West Los Angeles, Dec. 7; Los Angeles-born Kibei, survived by wife Misako, daughter Yasuko Nakamura, Yoko, 1 gc., sister

Shigeko Tadokoro.
Inouye, Misao, 87, Gardena, Nov. 29; Lihue-born, survived by sons Wesley, Kazutoshi (Chicago), Harry (Walnut Creek), Stanley, daughters Akiko Higashi, Gale (San Francisco), Nancy Teshima, 15 gc., 2 great-gc.

Ishikawa, Charles K, 87, Wilmington, Dec. 2; Wakayama-born naturalized U.S. citizen, survived by wife Yaeko, 3 sons Mike, Ken, Roy, daughter Patty Nishi, 5 gc., brother Kaheiji (Jpn), sister Harue Hamaguchi (Jpn).

Iwahiro, Haruko, 87, Lakewood, Colo., Nov. 12 (service); Yamaguchi-born, prewar Salinas resident, survived by husband Shigeo, sons Shoji (Marina, Calif.), Herbert (Sacramento), Masakatsu (Citrus Heights), Iwao (Plano, Texas) and daughter Shigeko Menda.

Tanimura-Mendenhall, May, 47, Santa Monica, Dec. 10; Chicago-born Nisei, survived by mother May Tanimura.

Tatsukawa, Yoshiko, Monterey Park, Dec. 12; Tokyo-born naturalized U.S. citizen, survived by husband Hitoshi, daughters Zina, Jane, Christina, parents Eisaburo/Sadako Ohkagawa (Jpn), brother Sho (New York), sisters Setsuko Gluhr (Ore.), Teruko.

Umamoto, Jennie T, 65, Harbor City, Nov. 24; El Monte-born, survived by brothers Hiroaki, Tom, Willie, Herbert.

IDENO

(Continued from page 1)

interned at Harriman Communications Center, the media headquarters for the Democratic Party, and served as coordinator of student assistants in the dean of students office.

At her most recent job at Foote, Cone & Belding, she counted among her clients Citibank, Seagram's Classics Wine Co., and Dun & Bradstreet Software.

The new fund-raiser is actively involved with the San Francisco Buddhist Church, serving as a board member and president of the S.F. Young Adult Buddhist Association.

"We are fortunate to have such a qualified and capable individual join our staff," Hayashi said.

Grayce Uyehara, chairwoman of the Legacy Fund Campaign Committee, added, "I welcome Gail Ideno, who joins our headquarters staff as director of fund development. She will be of immeasurable help to the committee and the chapters with the campaign. We look forward to a joint effort of planning and expediting a fund-raising program which will take the Legacy Fund to the \$10 million goal by 1995."

Ideno, whose duties began last month, said, "As a Yonsei, I think it is important to become involved in the Japanese American community, and supporting the JACL Legacy Fund is one way of making that commitment. The \$10 million Legacy Fund Campaign

will ensure that future generations have the financial support to continue JACL's mission of securing and upholding civil and human rights for all people and preserving the cultural values of Japanese Americans. In my new position, I look forward to helping the legacy become a reality." ☐

KIMURA

(Continued from page 6)

of Denver, Hisami Yoshida representing the district governors, and Patty Wada from the staff. Allen Kato is our legal counsel.

Finally, I want to thank Greg Marutani, Hats and Amey Aizawa and Taxy and Yo Hironaka for their hospitality during my stay. Usually when we go to San Francisco for national board meetings, we never get out of Japan Town. This time, I enjoyed dining in other parts of the city. That's 30 for now. ☐

Kimura's IN-SIGHT column appears regularly in Pacific Citizen.

JACL

(Continued from page 1)

Sagawa is a graduate of Smith College and Harvard Law School. She worked for Sen. Edward Kennedy as a Senate Labor and Human Resource Subcommittee staff counsel and is currently an attorney with the National Women's Law Center.

Karen Narasaki, JACL Washington, D.C., representative, said, "We are hopeful that Doris Matsui and Shirley Sagawa are the first of many Asian Pacific Americans to be given the opportunity to serve in President-elect Clinton's administration." ☐

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