

# Pacific Gitizen

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Protecting the Constitution —p. 7

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October 1-7,1993

# JACL's statement on Shinkawa

At the national board meeting of JACL held Sept. 25-26, JACL National President Lillian Kimura requested the resignation of Pacific Citizen Board Chairperson Paul Shinkawa.

The request came after a series of discussions about recent operations of the Pacific Citizen and whether they have been consistent with the National JACL Constitution and Bylaws' directive that it be conducted "as an educational and public relations project." The Pacific Citizen is the official publication of the JACL.

Discussions also focused on the obligation of the Pacific Citizen to work in support of JACL's National Program for Action, which outlines the mission and goals of JACL, as adopted by the members at its biennial convention.

Kimura, who had appointed Shinkawa as chair, said, "I lost confidence that he could be part of the team." Her actions, she felt, were necessary "to alleviate the current situation." Expressing her appreciation for his work, she stated her intention to find another role for him to play in the organization.

JACL General Counsel had advised the Board that under JACL's Constitutional and Bylaws, the national president had the authority to request Shinkawa's resignation. Shinkawa, in his final words to the Board, also acknowledged Kimura's right as president to ask for his resignation and noted his "high personal regard for the Board."

Hisami Yoshida, chairperson of the Governors Caucus and Pacific Northwest governor, addressed the board saying, "I strongly support Lillian for the action she has taken under these conditions," and thanked Shinkawa for his efforts.

The district governors for the Pacific Southwest, Eastern and Northern-California-Western Nevada-Pacific regions also expressed their support of the National President. The National Board then went on record, voting unanimously to "support Lillian Kimura's decision to request Paul Shinkawa's resignation."

To ensure there would be no lapse in leadership, Kimura appointed NCWNP Governor Lucy Kishiue to act as interim chairperson of the Pacific Citizen Board. This action was ratified by the full board.

"I thank Paul for his leadership,"

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# Kimura fires PC board chair

President asks him not to write about discussion of PC role at national board meeting. He refuses and is dismissed

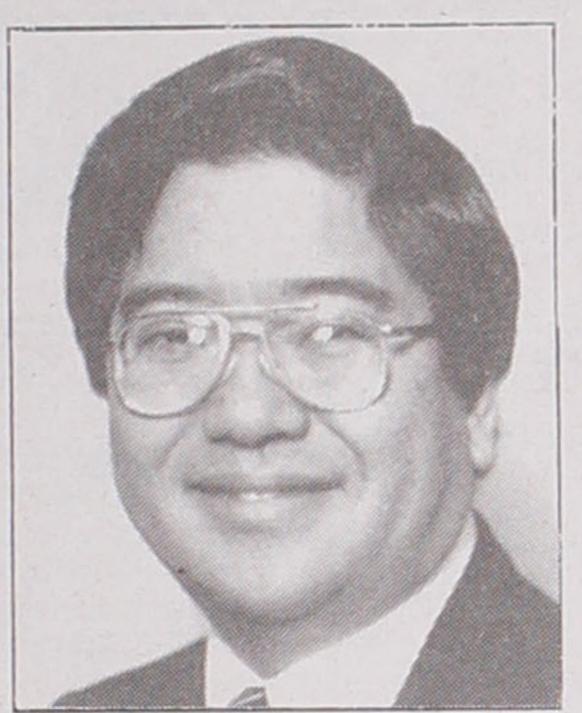
By GWEN MURANAKA Assistant editor

SAN FRANCISCO-After some five hours of heated discussion about the role and function of Pacific Citizen at the JACL national board meeting Sept. 25-26, Paul M. Shinkawa, chairman, Pacific Citizen board of directors, was asked to resign by JACL National President Lillian Kimura. The request was made after Shinkawa refused to comply with a directive by the national president to instruct the PC staff not to write a detailed article about the board's discussion of PC. Kimura, who was PC board chairwoman prior to becoming president, said, in making the decision, "I have asked Paul to tender his resignation primarily because as president of the total organization including Pacific Citizen, I asked him to do something and he would not do that."

The national president then appointed Lucy Kishiue, governor, Northern California Western Nevada Pacific District, as an interim PC board chair. The motion for Kishiue's ratification was unanimously approved by the national board. Except for Bill Kaneko, vice president, Public Affairs, and Allen Kato, JACL legal counsel, all national board members were present Sunday.

Explaining her decision, Kimura said it was done in the interests of harmony within the organization and to resolve issues from the earlier discussion. "This was done in order to alleviate the current situation, to work together to create a better JACL," said Kimura. While complying with Kimura's request to resign effective immediately, Shinkawa said he could not comply with her order to direct PC staff because he felt it conflicted with his duty to uphold the JACL Constitution and Bylaws.

"My oath is to the primacy of the JACL Constitution—the primacy of document,"



PAUL M. SHINKAWA



LILLIAN KIMURA

said Shinkawa. ""I do not have the authority or privilege to decide whether the Constitution is right or wrong but to carry it out. I felt that the request was improper."

The discussion, which ran for nearly three hours on Saturday afternoon and continued Sunday morning, centered on Pacific Citizen and its role as either a public relations vehicle or a newspaper and whether the PC board has governing powers over the Pacific Citizen and staff.

In the Saturday afternoon session, Shinkawa announced that PC board members Peggy Liggett and Ron Shibata would respectively report on two key items discussed at the May 22 PC board meeting. Liggett discussed PC's desire for its own personnel manual based on different and separate functions between the national and PC staffs. Shibata reported on PC finances. Shinkawa followed with his report on PC guidelines, using articles by himself, Bill Hosokawa, PC technical advisor, and Richard Suenaga, PC editor/general manager.

In sometimes angry exchanges, the issues boiled down to questions of PC accountability and control.

Trisha Murakawa, vice president, Planning and Development, asked if the national board has authority over the PC board.

Kato, speaking as legal counsel, replied saying, "I was asked to review the issue by the board. In a nutshell, I would agree with what Paul says. I wrote a six-page memo. Analyzed JACL by-laws. In 1984, JACL intended PC as editorially independent under the guidelines of the PC board."

"It is very clear that the PC board is entrusted with all those rights and responsibilities" said Kato

ties," said Kato.

H i s a m i
Yoshida, governor, Pacific
Northwest District, asked, "I'm
concerned. (Does)
PC want to pull
away from
JACL?"

Shibata responded stating that PC already operates as a business, yet at the same time considers itself

an important part of JACL. "If it looks like a duck, acts like a duck, then it's a duck. We (the PC board) are saying, yes, we are an integral part of JACL," said Shibata.

In response, Neal Taniguchi, vice president, General Operations, suggested that PC be separated from JACL. "If you want to walk and talk like a duck just separate. Create a separate corporate identity and cut to the quick."

Taniguchi, during Liggett's discussion on a personnel manual, said he felt it was wrong that the PC staff and JACL national staff be treated differently.

"It's wrong to treat two staffs separately under one corporation," said Taniguchi.

Jonathan Kaji, national secretary/trea-

surer, asked who defines PC.

Responding, Shinkawa said, "Let me give you the PC board viewpoint. The PC board runs PC. The national board selects the PC board. Once we are selected, it is

Kaji felt there was a greater need for control and oversight of PC finances. During his treasurer's report, Kaji said that national JACL had a budget deficit of \$100,000. In discussion of PC, he put part of the blame for this figure on an article concerning former National Director Dennis Hayashi and his handling of the Jap Road issue in Beaumont, Texas which appeared in the paper.

Saying that originally the board planned a fundraiser for the same weekend in honor of Hayashi which, according to Kaji, Hayashi declined to participate in citing the PC article, Kaji said, "We're not hav-

See KIMURApage 3



# Mas Satow named to bowling Hall of Fame

By DON SNYDER

In the 1930s, as research finds, a zeal to bowl developed among Americans of Japanese ancestry. One of them was the late Masao W. Satow (1908-1976). The American Bowling Congress' Caucasian-only membership rule prevented his joining the ABC when he took up the sport.

HEYDAYS—The late Mas Satow, seated, second from left with fellow JACL bowlers, has been named to the American Bowling Congress Hall of Fame.

However, Satow and other racially-restricted bowlers found a way to bowl competitively even though denied participation in the framework of the lord bodies of organized bowling (ABC for men and the WIBC for women). They formed their own tournaments with the support of not all but many bowling proprietors. (The all-white rule was dropped in 1950.)

The ABC Hall of Fame Committee, meeting the first week of September at Greendale, Wis., elected Satow and four other Black pioneers who were "instrumental in the

See SATO/page 5

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# Calendar

## Canada Toronto

Sat. Nov. 7-Tribute dinner for the late Japanese Consul in Kovno, Lithuania, in 1940, Senpo Sugihara (1900-1986), 6 p.m., Regal Constellation Hotel, 900 Dixon Rd., Toronto, Co-sponsors: Canadian Jewish Congress, NAJC Toronto. NOTE-Dr. David Suzuki, keynote speaker, Mrs. Yukiko Sugihara and her son and daughter-in-law Mr. and Mrs. Hiroki Sugihara in attendance. Information: 4600 Bathurst St., Willowdale, Ont M2R 3V2.

Japan Tokyo

Fri. Oct. 15-U.S.-Japan Relations program, 6:30 p.m., Roppongi International House. Information: Ted Shigeno 0468-76-2431. NOTE-Prof. Kent Calder, Princeton University, speaker.

Thu. Nov. 18-JACL Japan chapter elections, 7 p.m., Tokyo Union Church, Omotesando, Information: Kenta Takamori, (03) 3585-3211, ext. 1737.

# Northeast U.S. **New York City**

Sat. Nov. 6-100th Anniversary exhibit and Thanksgiving open house, Japanese American United Church, 255 7th Ave. (24th St.), New York City, Information: 212/242-9444.

Washington, D.C.

Wed. Oct. 20-Okura Mental Health Leadership Foundation dinner, 6:30 p.m. reception and 7:30 p.m. dinner in honor of Mrs. Tipper Gore, First Lady of Mental Health, Crystal Ballroom, Fort McNair Officers Club, Washington; black tie optional, inquiries 301/530-0945.

Thu.-Sat. Oct. 21-23, MIS / Washington, DC Reunion - Crystal Gateway Marriott, Arlington, Va. THU- Panel discussions, golf tournament, sightseeing, buffet mixer, FRI - morning rites at Arlington National Cemetery, luncheon at Capitol Hill and tour of Congress, reception at the Japanese Embassy; SAT boat cruise with lunch, grand banquet, presentation of Philippine campaign medals; Information: Japanese American Veterans Association, PO Box 391, Vienna, VA 22183.

# Florida Del Ray Beach

Through Nov. 7-Smithsonian-NJAHS-Oakland Museum, exhibit: "Strength and Diversity, Japanese American Women 1885-1990," The Morikami, west of Jog Rd. (btwn Linton Blvd. and Clint Moore Rd.), 407/0233, closed Mondays. [Permanent exhibit on "Yamato Colony" to be added this fall.]

### Indiana Indianapolis

Thu.-Sun. Oct. 14-17—International Festival, 10-10 Thu-Sat, noon-6 p.m. Sun., State Fairgrounds; information Mike Katayama 317/736-1347.

## Minnesota Mpls.-St. Paul

Through Oct. 8-International exhibit: "Anne Frank in the World: 1929-1945," Hours: 9-9, Mon-Fri, 9-5 Sat-Sun., First Trust Center, 180 E. 5th St., St. Paul. Information: 612/962-4351

Fri.-Sun. Oct. 1-3-JACL MDC Session, Airport Marriott, Bloomington. FRI-Informal welcome to out-oftowners.

### Colorado Denver

Sat. Oct. 16- JACL Mile-Hi / Denver Buddhist fundraiser, Country western dance, BBQ supper, 6 p.m., Denver

Buddhist Temple. Information: Sumi Takeno, 303/777-1861. NOTE-Singalong with Mark Saiki.

# Arizona Phoenix

Sat. Oct. 2—Japanese Free Methodist golf tournament, 6:30 a.m., 500 Club, 4707 W. Pinnacle Peak Rd., Information: Dodropthy Tanita 602/937-2277.

# Washington Olympia

Sat.-Sun. Oct. 16-17-JACL Olympia hosts PNWDC session/chapter 10th anniversary, SAT: 9 a.m.-3 p.m.: PNWDC session, Olympia Council Chambers, City Hall, 7 p.m. dinner, St. Martin's Worthington Conference Center, 5300 Pacific Avenue SE, Lacey. Information: Dorothy Sato Brooks 206/ 754-6833. NOTE- Lillian Kimura, speaker. Bento lunch \$7, dinner \$25; rooms reserved at Super 8 Motel, \$53.88 plus tax, dbl occ., contact Kelly Wicker 206/491-2328.

#### Seattle

Sat. Oct. 9-"Forget Me Not," Ayame Kai Guild dinner-auction, Sheraton Hotel-Towers, Seattle; information Keiro 206/323-7100.

Sat. Oct. 9-Community dance, 8 p.m., Nisei Vets Hall, 1212 S King St.; infor-

mation 206/772-1160. Sun. Oct. 17-Tomo-no-kai Widow/ Widowers' Dine-out, Tai Tung, 659 S. King St., Seattle; information Kim, 206/

324-0862. Sat. Oct. 23-Charity auction, Asian Management Business Assn., 6 p.m., Bellevue Red Lion Hotel, Information: Judy Yu 206/621-9506, Lanyette Baron 682-5151.

Sun. Dec. 5-JACL Lake Washington Christmas-installation dinner, West Coast Bellevue Hotel, 116th NE, south of NE 8th. Information: Shox Tokita 206/ 641-6512.

# Nevada Las Vegas

Sun. Oct. 10-JACL Luau, St. Viator's Comm. Ctr. Information: Marie Stapleton 702/648-3894.

Fri-Sun. Nov. 5-7-JACL PSWDC Conference, Boardwalk Hotel, 3750 Las Vegas Blvd South (btwn Flamingo and Tropicana), 702/735-1167; SAT: dinner. Information: PSW JACL Office 213/ 626-4471, Bill Endow 702/878-1589.

# California Sacramento Valley

Sat. Oct. 23-Senator Lions "Kanojo Fall Kollection" fashion showing, 1-5 p.m., Sacramento Buddhist Church; information Steven Hatamiya 916/391-1441x271; June Kurano 916/422-7906. Thu. Nov. 18-JACL Sacramento installation dinner, Hoi Sing Restaurant, 7007 S. Land Park Dr., Lillian Kimura, speaker; information: 916/447-0231.

#### Sonoma-Marin Counties

Sun. Oct. 3-JACL Sonoma County senior appreciation luncheon. Information: 707/546-1332.

Sun. Nov. 7-JACL NCWNP session, 9 a.m., hosted by Sonoma County Chapter. Information: Patty Wada 415/931-

#### San Francisco

Sun. Nov. 7-Nisei Widowed Group, 2-4 p.m. Information: Elsie Chung 415/ 221-0268 or Yuri Moriwaki 510/3280. Sat. Nov. 27-'Meet You at the Evergreen' reunion of S.F. youth groups of the '50s, JCCCNC, 7-11 p.m. with George Yoshida's 17-piece orchestra. Information: Nob Fukuda 415/221-8295. NOTE: Loan of photos of Japantown in the 1950s, especially of Evergreen Foun-

tain, requested by SKO Studios, 482-15th Ave, San Francisco, CA 94118/ Sender's name & address should show on the back.

#### Peninsula

Fri. Oct. 1-Stanford Reunion Homecoming Weekend, 3:15 p.m. EO 9066 memorial plaque dedication at Asian American Theme House (Okada), Information: AAAC, 415/723-3681.

Sat. Oct. 30-JACL San Mateo Monster Bash, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., music by Gary Mora's "KYA Road Show," Central Park Recreation Center.

### Eastbay

Thu. Oct. 7—Dokiren reception, 6-8 p.m., Asian Resource Center, 310-8th St., Oakland Chinatown, Information: 510/891-9045. NOTE-Dokiren is an association of 147 Japanese corporations to promote good corporate citizenship and to work for a discrimination free work environment.

#### San Jose-Monterey

Fri.-Sun. Oct. 8-10, WWII Crystal City Camp 50th Anny Reunion.- Hyatt Regency Hotel, Monterey, Calif; Information: NJAHS, 1855 Folsom St. #161, San Francisco, CA 94103, 415/431-5007; Mas Koketsu, 1687 Curtner Ave., San Jose, CA 95125, 408/269-6765.

Sat-Sun. Oct. 9-10—BCA Federation of Buddhist Women's Association League conference, Red Lion Inn Hotel, San Jose. Speakers include Rev. Kobun Torosu, Osaka; and Rev. Dr. Taitetsu Unno. Registration deadline: Aug. 31. Information: 408/724-7779.

Tue. Oct. 19—Technology Management Conference, 8:30 a.m., Westin (formerly Double Tree) Hotel, Santa Clara. Confirmed speakers-Hideji Sugiyama, MITI; Robert Burnmeister, director, Stanford's U.S.-Japan Tech Mngmt Ctr.; Edward Kozell, Cisco Systems; William Howe, Intel Japan; Hugh Martin, 3DO; Seiji Uehara, 3COM-Jpn.; Dick Yamashita, MARCOM president and conference organizing chair. U.S. contact: Dori Jones, 408/736-1240. Fri. Nov. 12-JACL San Jose elec-

# Fresno-Central Cal

408/295-1250.

tions, Issei Memorial Hall. Information:

Sat. Nov. 6-VFW Sierra Nisei Post dinner, Lt. Col. Barry Saiki (ret.) of MIS, speaker; 7 p.m., Airport Holiday Inn, tickets \$25, Information: Frank Isogawa 209/896-1738, Nob Togioka 209/897-2002, Hiro Isoagawa 209/222-7083, Tom Teramoto 209/227-1293.

Sat. Nov. 13-Holiday Kanojo fashion show, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Fresno chapter Professional Secretaries International, Airport Holiday Inn, 5090 E. Clinton, Fresno. Information: Jeanne Nagao, 209/224-6258.

# Los Angeles-Orange

Sun. Oct. 3-JACL Ventura County Festival, "Celebrating Our Heritage," 2-5 p.m., Poinsettia Pavilion, 3451 Foothill Rd., Ventura; information 656-6907. Sun. Oct. 3-Gardena Buddhist Matrons "Kanojo Fall Kollections" showing, noon, Gardena Buddhist Church social hall; information Midori Yoshimura 310/ 324-6349.

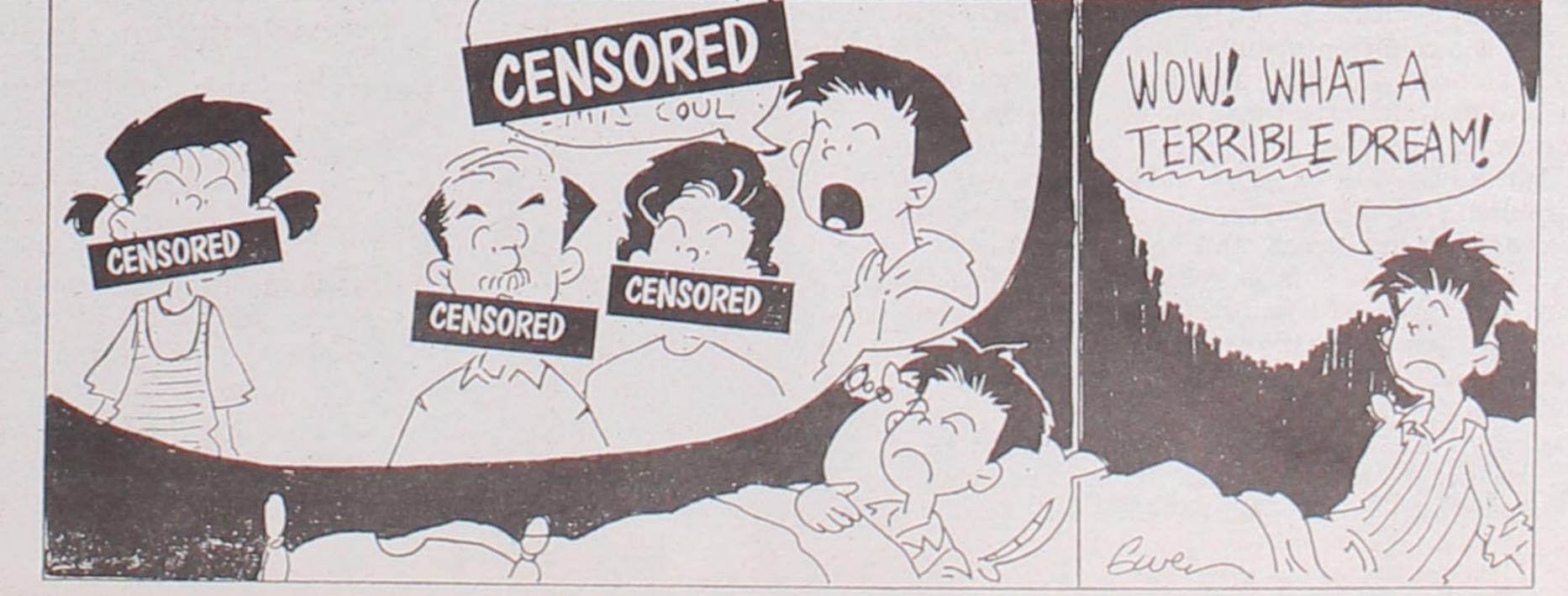
Thu. Oct. 7—Asian Bus League meeting, 6:30 p.m., McCormick & Schmick's, 633 W. 5th St., 4th Level, Linda Wong, "Rebuild LA", speaker.

Thu. Oct. 7-JACL Marina guest speaker, 7 p.m., Gwenn Wycoff, "UFO Experiences," Burton Chace Park, Marina Del Rey. Information: Wayne Nagata 310/790-7397.

Fri.-Sat. Oct. 8-9-Japanese American National Museum annual conference, FRI-22 dialogue sessions, Akio Morita, SONY chairman, luncheon speaker, Biltmore Hotel, L.A.; SAT-Fund-raising dinner, 7 p.m., Century Plaza Hotel; MON. Oct. 11—Invitational golf tournament, Sherwood Country Club, Thousand Oaks. Information: 213/ 625-0414.

#### Small kid time

Gwen Muranaka



# KIMURA

(Continued from page 1)

ing that because of one article in PC. I'm all in favor of journalistic independence for independent newspapers. What we have here is a non-independent entity because it is half funded by JACL. Some of the articles run undermine the efforts of staff. When they (PC staff) can write it there is no recourse, they can run under the cloak of journalistic values.

"If the PC board feels it is producing a product that can stand on its own feet, maybe they should do that. Set up a separate corporation and have JACL create its own house organ," said Kaji.

Grayce Uyehara, chairwoman, Legacy Fund, asked Kaji later if total JACL divestiture from Pacific Citizen was his recommendation to the Executive Committee. "I see that as a role of the National Council, I became quite concerned with that," said Uyehara.

Kaji clarified that he hadn't made the suggestion when the Executive Committee, made up of elected board members, met in

August.

Responding later to Kaji's accusations about the fund-raiser, Liggett said, "My hearing on the issue of Dennis Hayashi from Lillian Kimura is that you're trying to make arrangements and are working with his schedule. You're saying one article was cause of the elimination of a \$40,000 line on the budget which has been there since the biennial convention. To place all of that blame on one article seems inap-

Citing safety and security problems, Liggett then reported that PC is moving its offices to Monterey Park, Calif. In response, Kaji questioned the PC board's authority to sign the lease.

Kaneko asked Shinkawa about the dual responsibilities in both public relations and news reporting. "It is the oversight of an independent newspaper which also has PR functions. You (Shinkawa), the (PC) staff, Richard Suenaga, has to balance that need. You have to be cognizant to those needs of the organization."

Shinkawa responded, "That's what I've agonized over since I became PC board chair because the bylaws very clearly state that its goals are both educational and public relations. So my feeling is we have to balance them evenly. I don't think we can do one over another. Excessive propaganda doesn't help education and vice

Many JACL national staffmembers, at various occasions on both days, expressed strong dissatisfaction with PC and expressed concern that they were being judged by PC. The feeling among staff was that PC had a negative impact on their ability to advocate issues, citing specifically the Twentieth Century Fox film, Ris-

Karen Narasaki, Washington, D.C. representative, said, "My question is, I feel very strongly for JACL to have a PR vehicle. (PC) has impacted our work in a negative fashion. It has undercut efforts we have undertaken."

Narasaki said PC's handling of Rising Sun, with two viewpoints expressed by a JACL staffer and PC staffer caused confusion among the coalition about where JACL stood on the issue and that she had to answer for that to major newspapers.

Murakawa said, "We don't have a problem with different perspectives as long as it's not staff versus staff. If it's a volunteer that's okay, as long as it's not staff. It gives the message to readers that JACL doesn't know where it stands."

Jimmy Tokeshi, regional director, Pacific Southwest District, said sharply to Shinkawa, "You're seeing nothing wrong with Rising Sun. I want to know why you think it's okay for a PC staff member to contradict staff."

"My viewpoint, which is the viewpoint of the majority of our board, is our support of the Program For Action, a very broad document..." said Shinkawa.

"I'm talking about Rising Sun," interrupted Tokeshi.

"Let me finish," said Shinkawa.
"(Our support of the Program For Action) does not authorize the national board to blanket delegate those decisions to the staff."
Shinkawa said PC could have handled Rising Sun in different ways but that the way in which it was presented in PC wasn't wrong.

At this point, many of those present expressed shock at Shinkawa's response. Shinkawa said that presenting two differing opinions on Rising Sun was legitimate and that the National Board must ratify involvement in specfic issues. The PC board chair said that staff involvement in Rising Sun was not "explicitly authorized" by the National Board.

Turning to the issue of communication between PC and the national staff, acting National Director Carole Hayashino noted that recently she and Suenaga had recently begun regular communication and both agreed that it has been working.

Wanting to bring the discussion to a conclusion, Kimura at the end of the Saturday discussion suggested that a smaller adhoc committee composed of national board members and PC board members meet to discuss the issues raised.

"We are going to have these problems all the time. I think the fact we talked about this is helpful. The differences are in approaches," said Kimura, who mentioned that she met with Shinkawa and Suenaga at the tridistrict conference in Cleveland.

In concluding the meeting on Sunday, Kimura reminded the board members that putting PC under a newly created national vice president of communication was one of the original recommendations that was rejected from the reorganization proposal.

At the beginning of the Sunday meeting there was a feeling that there wasn't a decision on the issue.

Kishiue said, "I didn't feel we have closure, (this has not been brought) to the point where we said okay, this is where we want to head. What we all want to do is put something in place where it doesn't come to this crescendo again.

"People are hurt, physically wounded. We need to see that things are going to happen in a positive way," said Kishiue.

Responding, Shinkawa pledged himself to cooperate.

"I commit to you. The PC and PC board is interested in cooperation and communication—to continue the process of communication. I think it has worked and we will continue to do that."

At the same time, Shinkawa said, "On the honesty level, there will be times when we won't see eye to eye but it won't be because we haven't communicated."

Taniguchi asked Shinkawa, "Can you guarantee to come up with solutions?"

"We'll try," answered Shinkawa.
"Well, that's not good enough,"
said Kaji and Taniguchi in unison.

Liggett said in response, "You're assuming we can read your minds. There are many issues to be discussed, the personnel manual, editorial policies and finances. We will continue to cooperate, but we cannot commit to always agreeing on all issues."

At this point, Yoshida asked if this was a closed session.

Shinkawa replied, "You can't do this."

Yoshida said, "Some of this ap-

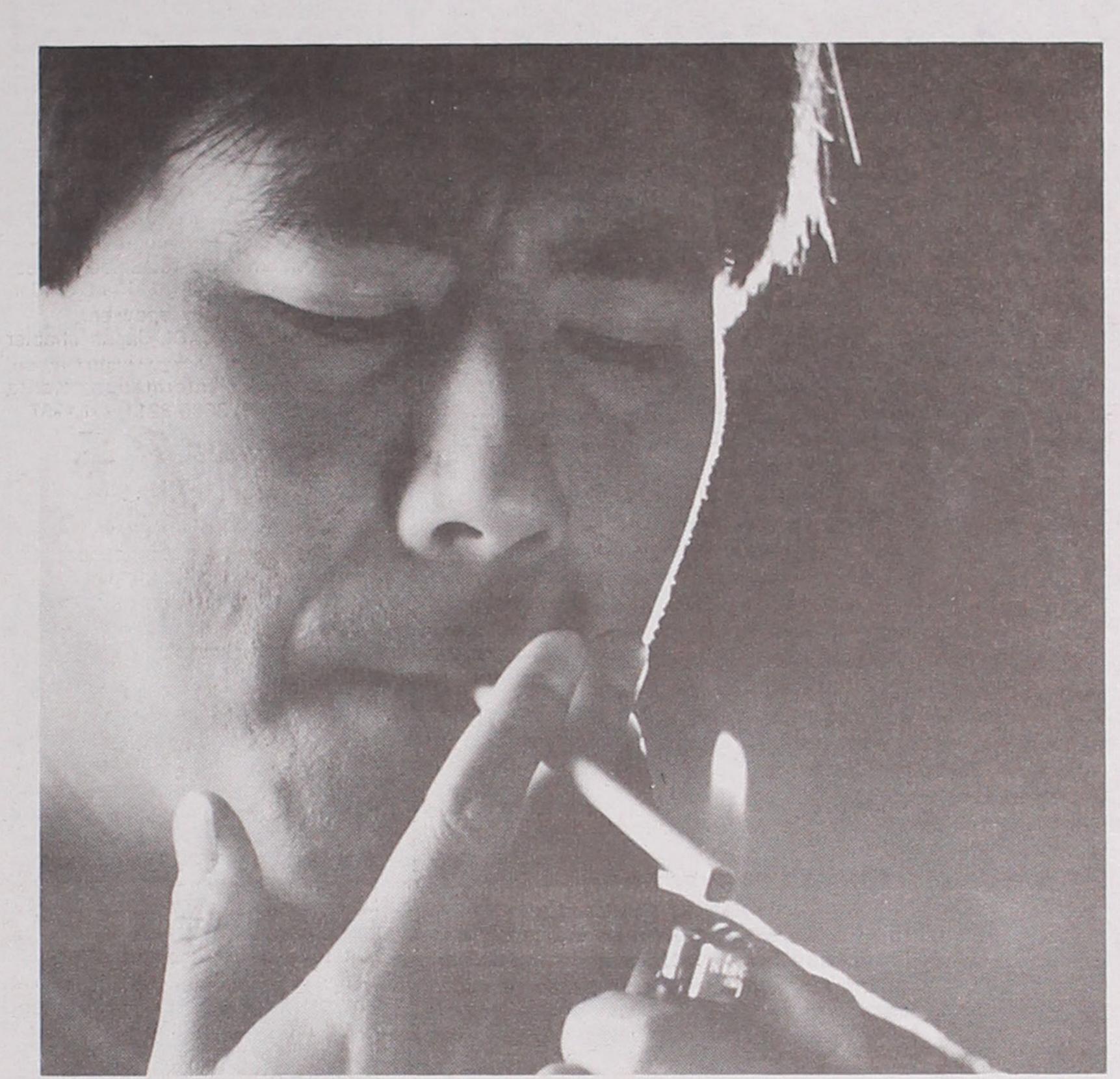
pears to be personnel issues."

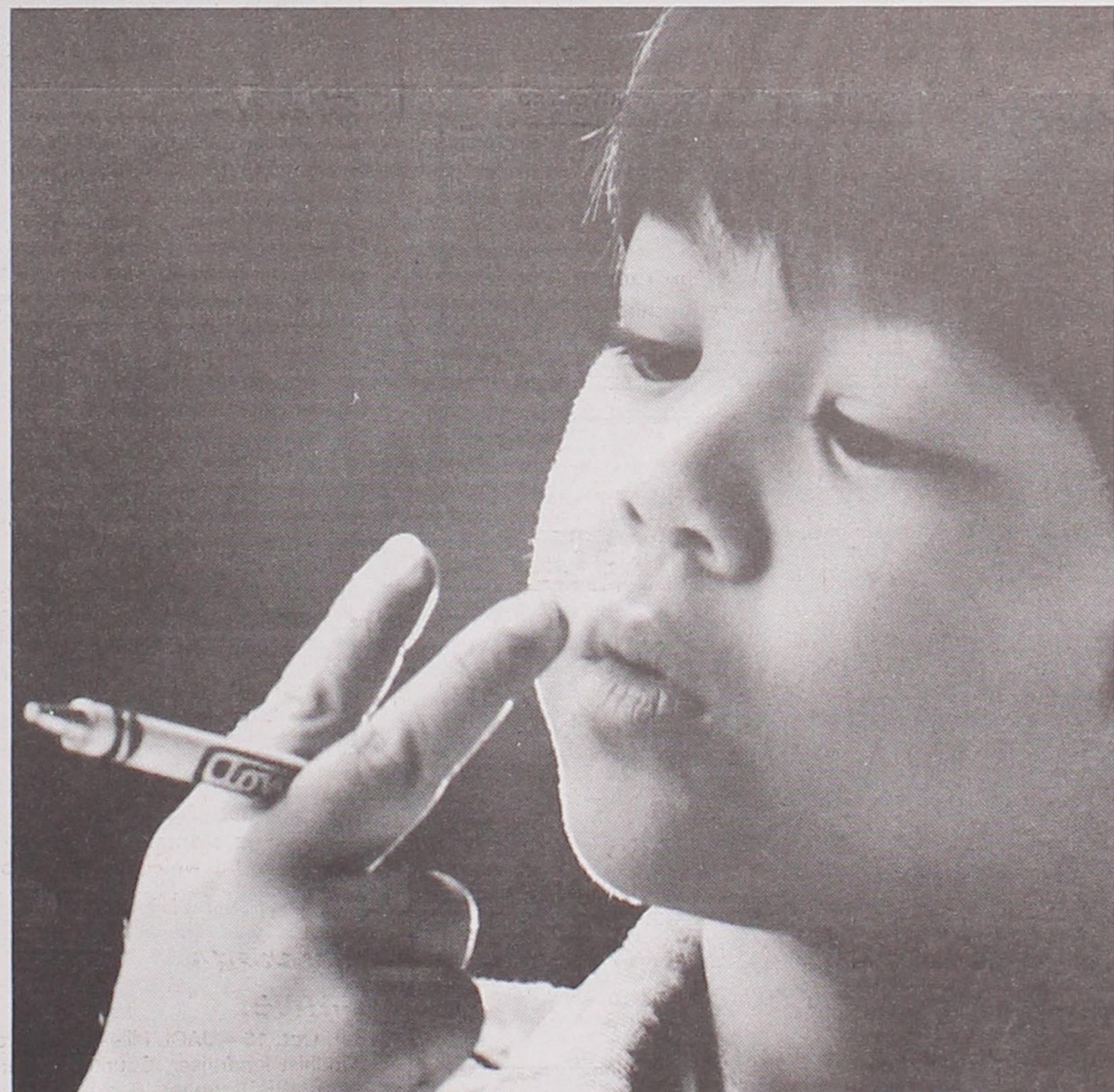
Shinkawa said, "What specific personnel matter? We, the PC board, want to keep this an open session."

Bringing up Tokeshi's earlier question, Murakawa asked Shinkawa, "Will PC staff writers write articles that form opinions contrary to the Program for Ac-

See KIMURA page 4

# Like Father Like Son





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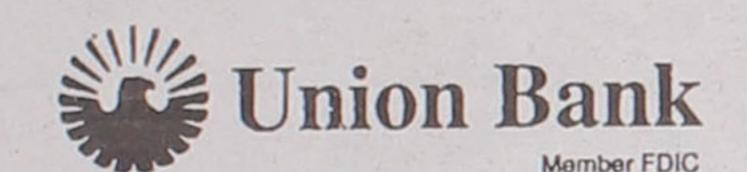
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(Continued from page 3)

tion?"

Shinkawa answered, "We will not contradict the Program for Action. Our opinions on the Program for Action may differ." The PC board chair said that PC will not contradict a position taken by the National Board or National Council.

Kishiue said about the need of JACL for public relations and PC, "Ifit's just an internal paper, that's okay. When it goes to non-JACL people and organizations, I have a real strong feeling that this type of insensitivity to public relations can be damaging in the long term."

Anumber of national staff members made statements about PC. Kishiue then asked to Shinkawa, "All the discussion that

comments not be published?" Shinkawa responded, "No. All we've done is committed to a pro-

came around about PC, will those

cess." Taniguchi questioned whether PC could be objective in an article about the board's discussion.

Kimura then said, "I am exercising my authority, ordering the board as president of the organization, for the good of the organization that we would not have these kinds of discussion that looks divisive to the organization."

Shinkawa said, "I can't agree with you. I have not heard anything here that has to be a closed discussion. These issues are important and something the membership should know about."

Yoshida asked for a definition of the lines of authority. Liggett then asked that Kato's six-page opinion on the PC be read.

Karen Yoshitomi, regional director, Pacific Northwest District, stood up and said, "Paul's response is cause for removal. I am speaking not as an individual, but as a member of this organization. I don't understand why that doesn't apply to the PC board chair."

Shinkawa, speaking to Kimura, said while he had pledged his service to her, "I am offering you the opportunity to monitor our activity. If you are asking to manage the news, I cannot do that."

Yoshida then said, "That's cause

for removal."

Another board member said, "I feel we are elected officials. You (Kimura) and we have a responsibility to direct him. Something has to be done."

Kimura said while she understood the sentiment of the board, she felt she couldn't make that decision at that time and wished to discuss the issue with Kato.

Shinkawa offered to Kimura that if after consultation, if she wanted him to resign, then he would do so immediately. Yoshida said her decision would have the full support of the national board.

Speaking to Kimura, Murakawa said, "It's not up to the National Board, it's up to you. If you don't make a decision that has to be made."

At this point, Kimura closed the discussion, but said she would have a decision on whether to order Shinkawa's position before the end of the day.

Murakawa said, "I don't want to be in a position to have to hire a whole new (National) staff."

Kimura then called a short five minute recess. After she concluded, Kimura announced Shinkawa's resignation and Kishiue's appointment as interim PC board chair.

Yoshida said, "On behalf of the governors, we strongly support (Lillian's) action."

Some of the governors made statements in praise of Shinkawa. Sharon Ishii Jordan, governor,

See KIMURA/page 5

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# KIMURA

'Continued from page 4)

Mountain Plains District, said, "As governor, not speaking for any groups or committees, I would like to thank Paul for his personal perserverance and commitment to what he feels is his responsibility. He didn't brake or stop on what he felt was his personal responsibility."

Carol Kawamoto, PSW governor, said, "I know our district has disagreed with PC. In talking with (Shinkawa), I know you're convicted."

Addressing Kimura, Kawamoto said, "I know the district is going

to back your decision. I think this is the right decision."

Adding her support of Kimura, Teresa Maebori, governor, Eastern District, said, "I also support your decision. I think this will come back as a constitutional issue, but it had to come to this to

get it resolved."

Liggett, who made a number of attempts to be recognized by the president and was given one minute to speak, said, "As former PC board chair and lifetime Thousand Club member at this time I am asking for the resignation of you (Kimura) as president and the national board (and the national staff) because of your failure to follow the tenets of the JACL Constitution and by-laws and follow the recommendations of your legal counsel. Second, I am now putting you on notice as a lifetime member of JACL and former PC board chair, I am filing a lawsuit in Federal Court for civil conspiracy to violate the First Amendment rights of the Pacific Citizen. I want this on the record to put you all on notice."

Kimura said Liggett was out of order.

Later, Liggett told Pacific Citizen that she had very serious concerns that the president, the national board, and the national staff have acted in concert to violate the constitution and by-laws of JACL.

"There is almost \$700,000 in national staff salaries. For them to demand that they not be evaluated or held accountable by members or PC is wrong," said Liggett.

# SATOW

(Continued from page 1)

growth of the sport within their ethnic group" to its Hall of Fame. Formal induction is scheduled March 17, 1994, at Mobile, Ala.

It was after his appointment at National JACL director in 1947 that Satow was in a position to develop programs to help Japanese Americans with resettlement problems after the war and the campaign to address issues of Issei naturalization and bowling's racial clause. He played a major role in establishing a national JACL championship for Nisei bowlers in 1947 at Salt Lake City.

Interest in the National JACL bowling tournament was sustained by Satow and some 100 participating teams for over 25 years. [At the last JACL-sponsored national tournament in 1973 at Portland, for the first time two 300 games were rolled by Ed Dong and Harry Kaneshige, both of Portland. The National JACL Convention at Portland in 1974 adopted a Seattle resolution to end discrimination against its own JACL membership as imposed by the bowling tournament rules of no more than two non-Nisei bowlers per team.-Editor's Note.]

Satow was a "hard worker," recalled his brother-in-law David Tsuruda. "He never had children of his own. The JACL was his family. A man of 5 foot-7 stature with an easy-going manner, he could be stern as a leader and knew how to drive home a point. A lesser-known fact about him was the effort spent from the late '60s coordinating bowling between Japan and the United States. He had the ability to attract people to bowl."

Fred Takagi of Seattle, Ozzie

Shimada of Watsonville, his brother Fuzzy Shimada of Mountain View (a legendary Nisei bowler), and W. Dubby Tsugawa of Sacramento all helped pioneer bowling for Japanese Americans. Answering a poll, they all agreed "Satow worked the hardest and accomplished the most for Japanese American bowlers in this country."

From old clippings and letters of yesteryear, others are remembered for their pioneering efforts, includ-

Hito Okada, Choppy Umemoto, Gish Endo, Taro Miyasato (legendary bowling champion of Hawaii), Hiroto Hirashima, Arthur Stagbar, Maki Kaizumi, Wat Misaka, Bill Honda, Dick Fujioka, John Noguchi, George Inai, Dr. Randolph Sakada and Daniel Ainoa.

Snyder, of La Crescenta, Calif., is a retired Los Angeles Times sports writer who covered bowling since the '60s.

# Obituaries

# Former PC editor Imamura dies

areporter at the Riverside Press-Enterprise died at the Community Hospital Sept. 14 of a ruptured aorta suffered four days earlier. He joined the Pacific Citizen in 1981, was editor in 1983 when he was selected for a summer minority program at UC Berkeley, then worked at the Sacramento Bee for a year before joining the Press-Enter-

Peter Anthony Imamura, 38, prise. Mass of Christian Burial was said Sept. 18 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church. Los Angeles-born UCLA journalism graduate ('78), he is survived by wife Ann (née Slocum), four brothers Roy, Michael (both Los Angeles), Bernie (Torrance), Joseph (Oregon), three sisters Angie Reed (Atlanta), Christine (Corona) and Jackie

Fujii, Hiroshi, 65, San Gabriel, July 3; Seattle-born, survived by wife Dorothy, mother-in-law Mary Takeyama, sisters-in-law Masako Fujii, May Yamaguchi (San Diego), Patricia Murakami (Thousand Oaks), brothersin-law Wallace (Ore.), Frank and Glenn Takeyama (Mo).

Fukumoto, Hayao, 66, Oxnard, July 2; Kagoshima-born, survived by wife Miyoko, sons Robert, Koji, Dr. Daniel, Mark, 3 gc.

Harada, Norman B, 35, Los Angeles, July 3; Los Angeles-born Sansei, survived by parents Fred and Aiko, brother Ronald (Danville), sister Jeanne.

# JACL

(Continued from page 1)

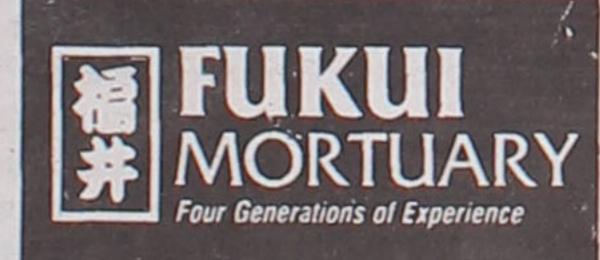
said Kishiue. "However, I realize there are issues that need resolution so that JACL can move forward and fulfill its obligation to our members. I commend Lillian for her courage to take this action. It was done in the best interests of the organization.

Kishiue will be meeting with the editor of the Pacific Citizen to ensure that day-to-day operations of the paper continue in the interim.

The National President also established a joint task force composed of representatives from both the National and Pacific Citizen boards of directors. This committee will address concerns surrounding the relationship between the organization and its national publication.

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(Chicago). Masuda, Tsuneo, 90, Montebello, July 18; Kumamoto-born naturalized U.S. citizen, survived by wife Momoye, sons Robert, Patrick (Chicago), Harvey, 1 gc., sisters Sumiye Takamoto and Tsugiye Iwagoshi (both San Jose), 9 inlaws: brothers Hajimu, Akio, Takeo, Hoover and Noburo Murakami, Takashi Murakami (Chicago), Paul Murakami, 2

Murakami. Nakano, Richard Haruo, 80, Walnut, July 10; Hawaii-born, survived by wife Takeko, sons R. Takeo, Larry, daughters Yukiko, Masae, Keiko, 5 gc., sister Yutako Takenouchi, sister-in-law Haruko Ichien.

sisters Tomiye Matsuda, Sumi

Okabe, Satoru, 91, Gardena, July 9; Hiroshima-born naturalized U.S. citizen, survived by sons Tetsuo, Kenichi, daughter Emiko Kodama, 6 gc., 1 great-gc.

Oku, Don Kazuo, 70, Los Angeles, July 22; Los Angeles-born WWII veteran, survived by wife Tatsuo, son Dr. Russell K, daughters Donna L.Y. Oku, Doreen Tanaka, 1 gc., brothers Robert, Edward, sisters Aiko Ozaki, in-laws: mother Hideko Inada (Jpn), brother Hiroshi (Jpn), sisters Shigeko Ogura and Renko Meighan (Carmichael, Ca-

Shioji, Rose, 76, Gardena, July 6; Los Angeles-born survived by sons Walter, Roy, 6 gc., brother Ryo Mukai, sisters Chinen Shimizu, Kiyomi Butsumyo.

Sugioka, Edgar S, 67, Los Angeles, July 20; Hollister-born WWII veteran, survived by wife Toshiko, brother Dr. Kenneth (Chapel Hills, N.C.), 6 sisters Lillie McCabe, Mabel Kenneth, Arlie Gildner (Albuquerque), Mary Sakamoto (Rocky Ford, Colo.), Dr. Gertrude Fujii, Dora Uyeno (Denver), in-laws (all Jpn): mother Sadako Kuwata, brothers Richard Ito, Daniel Kuwata, Yasushi Kuwada, Tadashi Kuwata, sister Reiko Oshita.

Yamaguchi, Hide, 87, West Covina, July 19; Kagoshima-born, survived by son Ko,4 gc.

Death Notice

FRANK S. WADA

Pingree, Idaho - 86, Frank Shigeru Wada, prominent Pingree area farmer, died Sept. 1, at Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center of injuries suffered in an automobile accident.

He was born Oct. 3, 1906, in Hiroshima, to Yatanosuke and Koai Wada. He emigrated to the U.S. in 1920. He graduated from Hollywood High School and attended the University of California at Berkeley. On June 2, 1934, he married Agnes Haruko Takenaga Nakadori. He started farming in Southern California in 1937, and moved to Cedar City, Utah, at the outbreak of World War II. In 1942, they moved to Pingree, where he lived and farmed for the remainder of his life.

He is survived by his wife, Agnes Haruko; daughters, Kay (Ted) Niwa of Salt Lake City, Junnie (Terry) Shiotani; and son, Albert; brothers, Yoshito Wada of Hiroshima, Steve Wada of New York and Walter Wada of Columbus, Ohio; and 10 grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a son and a grandson. Funeral services were held at the

Blackfoot LDS West Stake Center.



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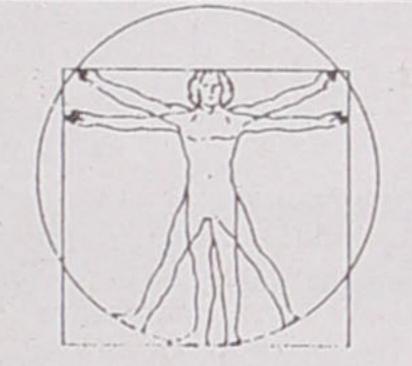
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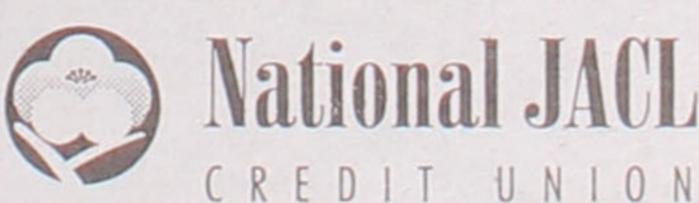
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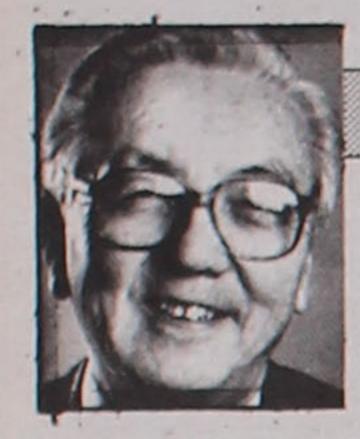
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# **Opinions**



# From the frying pan

## BILL HOSOKAWA

# On the move

his newspaper, Pacific Citizen has had many homes in the more than half century of its existence. Until fairly recent times they were uniformly crummy, which is usually the fate of small weekly newspapers with inadequate resources.

Pacific Citizen moved into the 20th Century when it rented space in the then new Japanese American Cultural Center building in Li'l Tokyo. But those quarters grew too small, or something. PC's next home was a loft, reached only by a daunting stairway and shared with the fledgling Japanese American National Museum. It was in a cavernous old building down in the warehouse district a long walk from Li'l Tokyo through some spooky streets. Sometimes the power went off. I think some kind of record was set in the number of times the cars of PC staffers were broken into.

Briefly after that, Pacific Citizen's current home seemed ideal. It is in the handsome new Neptune Building at the corner of Alameda and E. Third St., with lots of glass and chrome, an elevator that works, air conditioning and rugs on the floor. It

soon turned out to be less than desirable. Why? As the real estate agents like to say, location, location, location.

The deplorable social forces that have been encroaching on Li'l Tokyo and the Japanese Village complex have engulfed Pacific Citizen. It was something of a shock to see posters in the windows of Li'l Tokyo shops warning patrons not to give coins to panhandlers because that would only encourage more of the homeless, and the winos and the druggies, to invade the area.

PC employees not infrequently have to step over the sleeping forms of the homeless to get through the building's locked doors when they come to work in the morning. There are no public restrooms nearby so you can imagine what happens on the sidewalks. Tenants' cars are parked in an adjoining lot surrounded by a high woven wire fence, but that hasn't prevented breakins and looting. Even PC's offices have been broken into and computers and other equipment stolen.

Perhaps the area will be cleaned up when the Little Tokyo Branch of the Los Angeles Public Library makes its scheduled move from donated space in the Centenary United Methodist Church building into ground floor quarters of the Neptune Building. But PC already has made its decision to move to a quiet—and safe—business center In Monterey Park not far east of downtown Los Angeles.

It is a prudent decision. A staff cannot concentrate on publishing a newspaper when it is constantly in fear for its safety. Asking anyone to work under such conditions is dangerous and unfair.

Yet there is something sad and ironic in this decision. Pacific Citizen, publication of an organization dedicated to human rights and located in one of our country's great cities, is being forced to flee a section of that community which has been made dangerous and untenable by our society's inability to cope with the problems of its least fortunate.

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

# Letters

# Supports PC's role as newspaper

I am disappointed to see various individuals and groups of JACL, in the Aug. 20-26 P.C., criticizing Pacific Citizen's right and duty to report of what is going on in the community and within JACL itself. Let me explain "where I am coming from." To be perfectly honest, I joined JACL to qualify for its Blue Shield group insurance. I do not know nor socialize with anyone actively involved in the organization and I get the feeling those active in the organization tend to be of a higher socioeconomic class than myself.

From the time I joined in 1982, I have been reading the P.C. for news regarding JACL and the J.A. community, and noticed in the early years of my membership that there was always some sort of controversy going on in JACL that seemed to divide the organization into factions—they did not seem to be healthy, productive disagreements resulting in an improved organization, but more like a needless bickering. However, this was just my personal opinion and nothing I experienced directly, so I do not know what the real situation was at the time.

To further explain my point of view—I am one who was denied redress because I was born outside camp. For the last four years, I have been writing letters regarding my case, first to JACL National Headquarters and the Pacific Citizen, for basic information, such as: Is there any hope for my case, and then to the Justice Department to explain my case and appeal their decision to deny redress.

In August, 1990, I called JACL Head-quarters for names and addresses of officials in the organization I could write to in order to tell them I supported the idea of amending the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 to include those who did not exactly fit the criteria of the Act due to a technicality and circumstances of other cases and sent them copies of information regarding my case.

I was told by someone named Cheryl (I did not get her last name) at National Headquarters that I could not write directly to the officials, that I would have to submit a draft of my letter and send it to her and then, if approved, a final copy of the letter could be forwarded. I was almost speechless — I could not believe this was the official procedure, but since I wanted to show my support for an amendment and get information that might help my case. I went ahead and mailed her a draft of a letter I wanted to write to various officials and copies of other correspondence to explain my circumstance. I was eventually told to contact the Pacific Southwest regional director, Mr. Jim Tokeshi, and he would forward my letters to Cressey Nakagawa and Bill Yoshino. On Sept. 29, 1990, I sent Mr. Tokeshi the letters I wanted

See LETTERS/page 7

# Pacific Citizen editorial

By RICHARD SUENAGA

# From right to wrong

JACL has lost its head and maybe its heart and soul as well.

Civil rights organizations must be guided by fundamental principles embodied in constitutional documents and by leaders who hold and uphold those principles to be inviolate.

If this is true then JACL can no longer call itself a civil rights organization. At its National Board meeting in San Francisco, Sept. 25-26, JACL leadership breached its own highest principle when Paul M. Shinkawa was fired as chairman of the Pacific Citizen Board of Directors by President Lillian Kimura.

In presenting his report to the National Board, Shinkawa reaffirmed Pacific Citizen's rights, role and responsibilities as established in the JACL Constitution and Bylaws. That position of editorial independence was supported by JACL counsel Allen Kato, who had been asked to report on his review of the JACL document.

The intense discussion began Saturday, Sept. 25, but by the following day it became volatile and hostile, galvanized by JACL national staff and some members of the national board. By mid-morning, buckling under the surge of ultimatums against Pacific Citizen, Kimura asked for Shinkawa's resignation.

Patty Wada, NCWNP regional director, for instance, said, "Before I can go back to work on Monday, I need to have an answer. They (PC) have the power to monitor, judge my work. Who am I accountable to, the National Board or PC Board, I want it answered before I go back to work."

When Shinkawa said that PC staff had a right to publish the story about the board's discussion of PC, thereby disobeying Kimura's directive, Karen Yoshitomi, PNW regional director, said, "Paul's response is cause for removal. I am speaking not as an individual, but as a member of this organization. I don't understand why that doesn't apply to the PC board chair."

Clay Harada, JACL director of membership, said, "We have to communicate with them (PC) on a daily basis, have to work with them. Something must be done," adding that the National staff mistrusts the PC staff

In essence, they and others told the president and the National Board that they could not have their work scrutinized by *Pacific Citizen*. It's us or them, they said. Get rid of the PC board chair and the staff or we can't do our jobs.

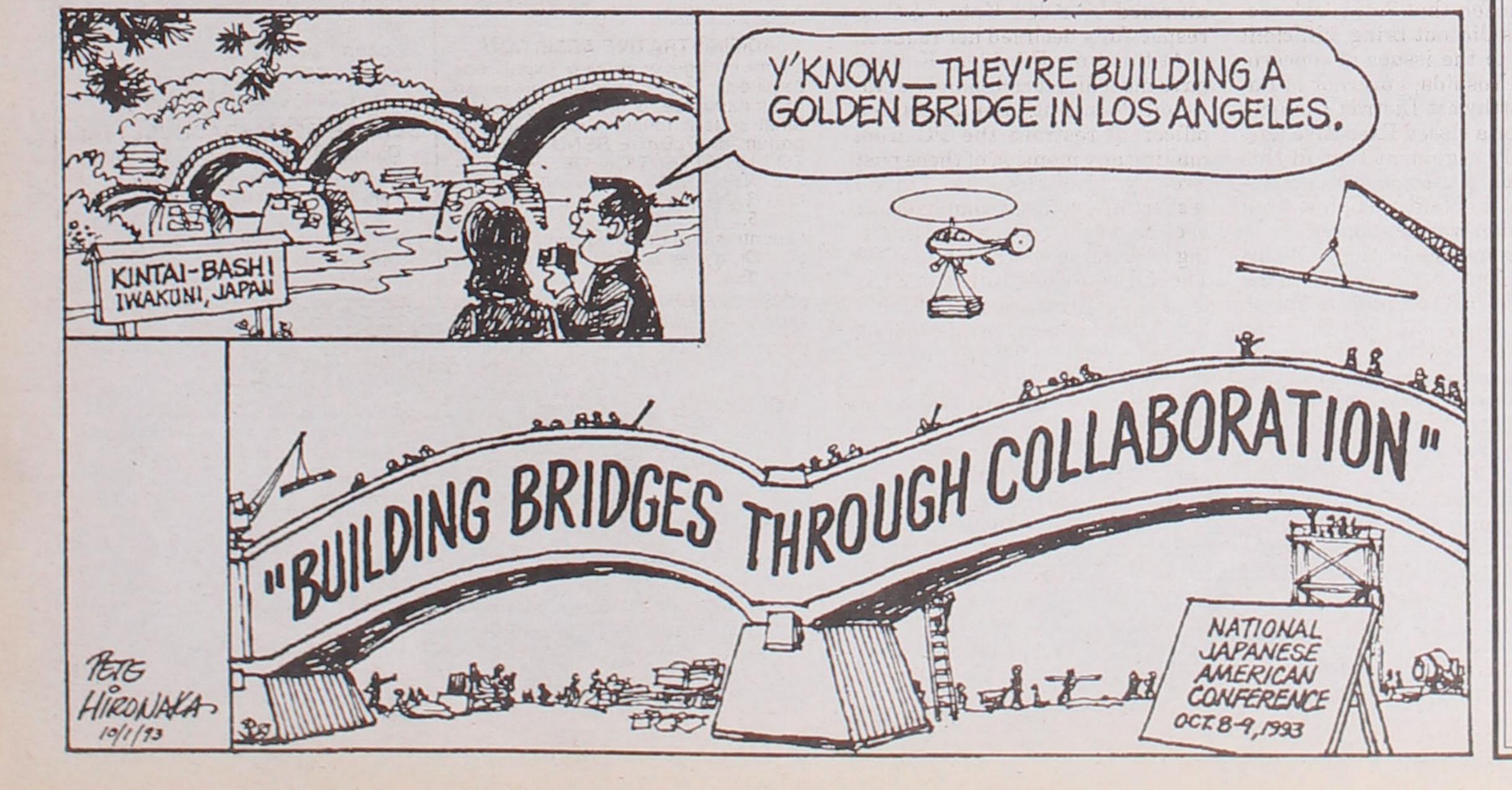
The national staff, in particular, has been the subject of ongoing complaints received by the PC about the quality and

quantity of their efforts by many members across the country—and this was yet another attempt to stifle criticism, to avoid accountability, and to shift and reverse attention to *Pacific Citizen* as the culprit for lack of movement and leadership.

Many members of the leadership argued that Pacific Citizen is or should be a house organ promoting the organization—despite what the JACL Constitution and Bylaws says, as Shinkawa and Kato had clearly noted. This was not surprising coming from the National staff but many members of the National Board espoused this view as well—including Jon Kaji, treasurer; Trisha Murakawa, vice president, planning; Neal Taniguchi, vice president, operations; Alan Nishi, vice president, membership services; and many of the governors.

First and most important, the National Board or National staff cannot dictate Pacific Citizen's role. That is the decision of the JACL National Council. Pacific Citizen has always maintained its independent and traditional news role because it believes members have a right to hear objective reports on the organization. Underneath the desire to use PC as a propaganda tool, then, is the desire to control what the membership knows and doesn't know. To avoid

See WRONG/page 8



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The opinions, views and statements in

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Voices

By PAUL M. SHINKAWA

# What happened in San Francisco

By now you have probably heard that I have been removed as Chairperson of the Pacific Citizen Board of Directors by Lillian Kimura. As I leave, I would like to relate to you my own version of the events which transpired at the Sept. 25-26 National Board Meeting in San Francisco which led to my removal.

First, some background. As PC Board Chair, I serve only as a non-voting member of the JACL National Board. I was appointed by the National President Lillian Kimura and confirmed by a note of the National Board. According to the Constitution and Bylaws, I serve at the pleasure of the president, who can remove me at any time and for any reason of her choice. The remainder of the PC Board is appointed through the various district governors.

The PC has been involved in a number of controversies throughout this year regarding stories it

well as business and editorial poli-

Kato responded that he had researched, written and submitted a six-page opinion to the president earlier which encompassed the National Constitution, National Bylaws, and National Council Minutes. He orally summarized it. Kato's legal opinion was that the PC Board clearly had authority to set its own business policies, set its own editorial policies and adopt its own personnel manual thereby reaffirming the decisions we made at our PC Board meeting.

A great deal more discussion followed during which PC board members Peggy Liggett and Ron Shibata and I attempted to answer questions concerning PC policies and the relative obligations of the PC to the membership through the PC Board, the President, the National Board, and the National Council. This session

would be taken to ensure fairness, balance and objectivity. However, we could not guarantee immunity prospectively in all cases. Vice President for Operations, Neal Taniguchi, and Treasurer/Secretary Jon Kaji responded almost in unison, "that's not enough."

I also tried to explain the responsibility of the PC to carry out the National Council mandated (in the Bylaws) tasks of educational and public relations as equally important and without giving preference to one task to the detriment of the other. John Hayashi, a member of the Select Committee on Organization Structure, from NCWNPDC remarked that in his own view, public relations was more important than objective news reporting.

The discussion on Sunday almost came to a close when President Kimura reiterated our agreement from Saturday to form a joint consultative committee. However, at this point, she additionally asked me to instruct PC staff not to publish any report of the PC related discussions which occurred on these two days until resolution of these issues were made by the consultative committee and the National Board. I responded that members had a right to know about issues such as these and how the National Board was addressing them before they became final decisions. Members should not be left in the dark about these matters until their leaders felt that it was appropriate to inform them. I believe that this type of ongoing consultative decision-making is a legitimate subject of member knowledge and awareness. Such decisions should not be made in a closed and secret atmosphere and passed back to

the membership by fiat. I counter-offered to make any story on this subject available for inspection and to make available ample opportunities for equal access to PC for countervailing articles. I also offered full consultations and discussions between board members from both bodies to iron out any differences in the substance of such articles. However, I could not agree to suppressing news of this type with-

'Kato's legal opinion was that the PC Board clearly had authority to set its own business policies, set its own editorial policies and adopt its own personnel manual thereby reaffirming the decisions we made at our PC Board meeting."

has printed. A story relating to a complaint by the Mountain-Plains District Council of National budget over-runs in conducting the March National Board meeting in Washington, D.C., was the first incident. It was followed by a series of stories documenting efforts of the Houston Chapter to change the racially pejorative names of two public roads in East Texas, and two side-by-side articles discussing different perceptions of the Twentieth-Century Fox feature film Rising Sun which were also principal sources of contention.

The controversies surrounding the PC's articles resulted in a formal request from the Northern California-Western Nevada Pacific District Council for a written clarification of PC editorial policies. A proposed policy written by me, Bill Hosokawa and Richard Suenaga in response to this request was completed last week and sent to the PC Board for review and comment. It was contemplated that after receiving comments and incorporating them, we would have sent a final version back for formal consideration and adoption by the PC Board. In the meantime, I took the initial proposal to the National Board meeting to present to the Board and solicit their comments as well.

I presented this editorial policy to the National Board. In doing bers who felt that Saturday's disso, I explained that it embodied the principles of PC reporting and accountability which have been Hisami Yoshida, governor of Pahistorically recognized by the National Council. It was also fully consistent with the National Constitution and Bylaws. I also explained that it did not represent a new direction for editorial policy but that it merely memorialized the traditions of PC editorial independence and accountability to the membership which have historically been honored by JACL.

A lively discussion ensued involving the National Board, four PC Board members (Les Hata, PC Board Member from NCWNPDC was also present), some general members, and staff.

revealed by President Kimura that a request had been made to National Legal Counsel Allen immunity from PC criticism. Kato for a written legal opinion concerning whether or not the PC Board had the authority to estab-

concluded after three hours of extremely disorganized debate. We successfully convinced the National Board that the types of changes which they desired to see in PC accountability by bringing direct National Board control over PC editorial prerogatives could only be made by amending the National Constitution and Bylaws. President Kimura and I then made two agreements. (1) She and I agreed that in the future, the PC Board and the National Board would create a joint consultation committee which would meet to work out the necessary clarifications in the National Constitution and Bylaws which could then be recommended for National Council action in Salt Lake City next August. (2) We also agreed that the PC staff would not attempt to undermine a National staffer's work with critical writing IF that work was part of the National Program for Action.

'The order given to me by President Kimura was improper for me to obey. It exceeded her Constitutional authority and would therefore be a breach of my own oath to obey it."

The next morning (Sunday) President Kimura opened the discussion again on the PC supported by several National Board memcussions did not bring sufficient closure to the issues of concern. cific Northwest District Council, asked for a closed Executive Session. My argument that in this case such a session was not allowed by the National Bylaws and the session was kept open.

This time, the National Board appeared to completely ignore the legal opinion presented on Saturday by Allen Kato (he was not

present on Sunday). National staff also demanded guarantees from me that the PC would no longer criticize work which they were involved in. One staffer implied that she could not come into work tomorrow without that guarantee. Basically, more During that discussion it was than one staffer stated that they could not work in an environment where their work did not have

I tried my best to explain that with the additional consultation mechanisms that PC and National

out some compelling reason. Furthermore, I could not voluntarily waive editorial prerogatives of the PC which had so recently been affirmed by Allen Kato. I then respectfully declined her request.

At this time President Kimura gave me a direct command as National President to an appointed officer to restrain the PC from making any mention of these past two days of discussions. I again respectfully refused what had now become a direct order. My thinking in doing so was as follows: (1) The National Constitution and Bylaws as confirmed by the National Legal Counsel contain express delegations of PC editorial policy to the PC Board and not the National President or National Board. Therefore, President Kimura did not have the constitutional authority to order me to change our editorial policy. (2) I took an oath as a JACL officer to uphold the Constitution and Bylaws of JACL. President Kimura's order to me to give up the PC Board's delegated authority over editorial policy was an improper, illegal, and unconstitutional or-

See SHINKAWA/page 8

# LETTERS

(Continued from page 6)

forwarded to Mr. Nakagawa, Mr. Yoshino and also to Mr. Paul Igasaki.

Mr. Tokeshi informed me that he had forwarded the letters, but I have never heard back from any of these people.

I have since found another organization that may be able to assist me in my quest for redress, the NCRR. A friend has told me there is less posturing and more action—we shall see. This statement is not meant to take away from all the work JACL put into Redress over the years, but it's a frank and honest opinion of a friend familiar with JACL and other organizations after hearing of my experience.

After reading the P.C. articles (June 25) about the JACL Texans, I thought to myself: "Well, I'm not the only one," and dismissed it. However, after reading the articles, "PSW recommends restrictions" (Aug. 20-26) and "PSW group praises Hayashi" (p. 6) and your editorial, "Response to PSW," (p. 7), I had to write to express my support of the P.C.'s right and duty to report what is going on in the community as it is happens-not dressed up and sanitized if not entirely positive or ignored if negative.

Without the P.C., I would never have known the status of redress over the years, the particulars on many cases of racism in America or of Ms. Tanamachi Nakata's

See LETTERS/page 8

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(revised September 30, 1993)

Central Japan & Ura-Nihon Tour Oct 17 - 30 (Ray Ishii) Hong Kong - Seoul Shopping Tour

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Japan Cherry Blossom Tour March 29 - Apr 8 (Yuki Sato) Special Cherry Blossom Tour

Apr 5 (Toy Kanegai) Special China & Hong Kong

April 11 - (Fumi Kawamoto) Heritage of America Tour #6 April 23 - (Michi Ishii) Arizona, Utah Canyon Tour

April 23 - (George Kanegai) Ozark, Branson & Missouri May 03 - 10 (Yuki Sato)

Satsuki Japan Tour May 14 - 25 (Ray Ishii) Greece with Aegean Cruise May 17 - 27 (Bill Sakurai) Hawaii Cruise & Whale

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#16 England/Scotland/Wales August 4 - 18 (Hidy Mochizuki) Ozark, Branson & Missouri Oct 11 - 18 (Yuki Sakurai)

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# SHINKAWA

(Continued from page 7)

der. To obey an unconstitutional order would be a monstrous breach of my sworn oath.

When I refused to obey Lillian's order, there was short and sharp discussion among the National Board members as to whether or not I should be removed for insubordination to the National President. There was also a discussion as to whether or not a formal note was required. I informed the board that a note was not required because I served at the pleasure of the president. Therefore, it would not be necessary for them to reveal their personal positions by a vote. Several board members insisted that President Kimura act immediately to remove me. She initially stated that she preferred to consult with Allen Kato before taking such action. I attempted to assist her by pointing out that my dismissal could take place at anytime simply by her express action and that there was no compelling need to act hastily if she felt that some consultation was in order.

The President took a short recess in which, I believe, she consulted with some individuals privately. After about 15 minutes, she reconvened the meeting. She then announced that she was exercising her authority to remove me as PC Board chair because my refusal to carry out a direct order

resulted in her loss of confidence in me as a member of her team. 1 asked her if she would specifically restate the direct order which served as her basis for this action. She then restated that she had ordered me to refrain from publishing any PC account of this weekend's discussion concerning the PC and that I had refused. She then announced that she was replacing me with an interim appointment of Lucy Kishiue, the governor of the NCWNPDC. I then was granted an opportunity by the President to address the board before leaving.

I explained to the board that I viewed my obligations as PC Board Chair to be to the JACL membership and superior to my obligations to the leadership. The Constitution and Bylaws were written and approved by members who intended them to be the primary guiding authority in JACL for everyone. It represents the will of the National Council and of the membership. My duties as PC Board Chair were to carry out the policy needs of the PC so that it could serve the members. Since the members created the Constitution and Bylaws, honoring those documents is an expression of the best interests of the members.

The order given to me by President Kimura was improper for me to obey. It exceeded her Constitutional authority and would therefore be a breach of my own oath to obey it. I then exchanged farewells with several board mem-

While I regret very much that JACL has been brought to this state of crisis, I have been taught by my own JACL mentors that one's promise is one's bond and must be upheld regardless of personal consequences in order to preserve personal integrity. My oath of office is a solemn promise of loyalty to each and every JACL member that I will abide by and honor the Constitution and Bylaws of JACL created by them to protect their own best interests. By my oath, I held office as a trustee for the interests of the members and I have never betrayed that trust.

President Kimura gave me an order which she had no Constitutional authority to give. I refused to obey because obeying an illegal order is itself an illegal act. Because I refused to obey her illegal order she exercised her Constitutional authority to remove me from office. I have no regrets for my own actions because I am convinced that it is far better to suffer the momentary humiliation of being removed from office than to endure the eternal disgrace of breaching my oath of office. I do regret the inevitability of retaliation against PC staff because of their excellent support of the PC Board's program.

I still support JACL, its Constitution and Bylaws. I am confident that as in crises like this before, the process of correcting the wrongs will make JACL a stronger and better organization to serve its members. Perhaps because of our work, some future PC Board will finally be able to bring about the full measure of planned membership services which we had aspired.

Shinkawa, an attorney, remains an active member of the Houston Chapter, JACL.

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# LETTERS

(Continued from page 7)

battle to change the name of Jap Road with or without the help of National JACL. But more importantly, after reading your editorial, I know P.C. is committed to reporting the issues openly, honestly and from every aspect, and has no intention of becoming just an organizational newsletter issuing glowing reports of conventions, conferences and meetings with public officials. For that, I support and congratulate you.

# Sharon Tanihara

Garden Grove, Calif.

# WRONG

(Continued from page 6) accountability.

The thinking came down to an either-orchoice. As John Hayashi, a member of the Select Committee on Organization Structure, said, "I'd much rather have a strong staff than journalistic independence."

What it really came down to is that the end justifies the means. President Kimura responded; most members of the National Board agreed with her. Offering their verbal support at the Sunday session were Carol Kawamoto, PSW governor, Hisami Yoshida, PNW governor; and Teresa Maebori, EDC governor.

The San Francisco tragedy sends this JACL administration into a whirling tumult. A kind of mob mentality used emotion and pressure to dictate. Few could stand up and ask the simple questions of what is right and what is best for the organization; few were thinking about the grassroots

membership. Democracy, for a country or an organization, exists within a framework. It does not exist or operate in a vacuum, or on a single level or on a single layer. It doesn't have to be either-or. One branch of government cannot intimidate, violate or invalidate

another.

And democracy always embodies the fundamental thoughts and beliefs of its citizenry for which

government exists. And what does this all say of our leadership? That fateful day, our leaders demonstrated power politics and a disdain and denial of the JACL Constitution and Bylaws. That isn't important to them, apparently.

Leadership has many faces, many facets. It embodies, among many qualities, the ability to receive, sift, and analyze information; hopefully action ensues. It also requires an ability to think and act independently. That didn't happen Sunday. JACL leadership has become a factor of social dynamics, a leadership governed by the pressures of conformity, fitting in, becoming one of the gang.

Shinkawa didn't think about going along with the crowd. He wasn't worried about fitting into a social club. He doesn't believe in mental cliques. Some members of the National staff and Board tried to give him the message on Saturday. It didn't work. That night they decided that if he wasn't going to be one of them, he's got to go. In Round Two, he'd get one more chance to see things right or

This is then a leadership that wants everybody to get with the program. The Program For Action? Maybe. Sometimes. Mostly, it's their program, the way they see it. Club requirement is belief in a single mindset. Independent thinking and diverse opinion are not good. Disagreement is sacrilege. Getting along takes precedence over principle.

And what did Shinkawa do? He complied with the JACL Constitution and Bylaws. The ultimate irony is the parallel to the days of internment. The evacuation order was illegal. The JACL redress argument, in part, said that the order was illegal.

What that means simply is that you cannot obey an illegal order. And that's what Shinkawa said and did. When something is wrong, people of good conscience and character have a moral obligation to disobey.

Throughout this ordeal—which really began months ago when Pacific Citizen began running stories seen by some as controversial, Shinkawa has maintained a consistent position based on rational thinking and JACL guidelines. Beyond that, in each case, at the Cleveland tri-district meeting in August, and certainly at the San Francisco National Board meeting, his demeanor has been soft-spoken, polite and courteous-yet unequivocal and unwavering in his logic, integrity and personal honor.

The same cannot be said of certain members of the National staff and National Board who discarded rationalism for rancor, who ignored the JACL Constitution for Expediency and Conformity, who cast aside honest discussion and disagreement for ultimatums and demands, who conducted themselves not as leaders but as bullies.

In San Francisco, on Sept. 26, 1993, JACL lost a big chunk of itself. It lost its character and driving principles. It may have lost Pacific Citizen as a news vehicle and as a viable forum for open discussion that leads to honest policy-making.

It also lost a good man.

Suenaga is editor/general manager of Pacific Citizen.

#### PC deadline reminder

Pacific Citizen's editorial and advertising deadlines are on Fridays at 4 p.m.

Mondays and Tuesdays are productions days when the issue is laid out, proofed and corrected.