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National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League

New leadership programs —p. 6

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October 8-14, 1993

Randy Senzaki named JACL national director

Randy Senzaki, director of the Educational Opportunity Program at San Francisco State University, was presented Sept. 25 at the national board meeting in San Francisco as the new JACL national director.

Senzaki, a 50-year old Sansei, said, "I am honored and privileged to get the opportunity to serve JACL. I learned who I was through hard struggle. It is important to preserve the spirit and dignity of Japanese American culture."

Senzaki, who originally comes from Minneapolis,

said he considers his new position as one of "stewardship."

"I see myself as a steward. As EOP director I understand the importance of multi-cultural connection. I am someone who would like to represent the needs, desires, and victories of the membership. I'm not here to tell anyone what to do, but to serve the constituency," said Senzaki.

Senzaki, who said he has worked in New York and in Berkeley during the 1960's

said as a middle-aged Sansei, he feels he is between generations.



RANDY SENZAKI
On board at SF headquarters

"I stand upon a continuum. I reach my hands out and can touch generations because I'm in the middle. I stand for respect for self, family, culture and community," said Senzaki.

"I am willing to extend my help to empower the Japanese American community."

The appointment was unanimously approved by the national board. The person-

See **DIRECTOR**/page 4

Sacramento Chapter office fire bombed

By **GWEN MURANAKA**
Assistant editor

A Molotov cocktail thrown through the front window destroyed the offices of the Sacramento Chapter JACL Oct. 2, in what appears to be the third racially motivated bombing to hit the Sacramento area in recent months. Nobody was in the office when the attack occurred at around 1:45 a.m. Neighbors said they heard glass breaking and the squealing of tires. The offices of the Sacramento NAACP were firebombed July 27 and a Molotov cocktail was thrown at a window of the Congregation B'nai Israel.

Speaking to *Pacific Citizen*, Mike Sawamura, past president and current Sacramento Chapter board member, said when he and Randy Imai, current chapter president, went to the site at a little past 3 a.m., the office had already been gutted. He said that Toko Fujii was first called by the landlord of the building and was already at the scene when Sawamura arrived. Sawamura said they spoke with the authorities and afterwards held an emergency board meeting.

"They were in the process of cleaning up. The fire department had already put the fire out. The police were there and the bomb unit had already come and left," said Sawamura.

Immediately after the bombing, a group calling itself the Aryan Liberation Front called a local television station to claim responsibility for both the JACL and the NAACP bombings.

According to the *Sacramento Bee*, Police Chief Arturo Venegas is treating the bombings as connected incidents.

"All of us should be upset and outraged. This is not just a crime against the Japanese community, it's a crime against all of us," said Venegas.

"We didn't get any phone calls or threat letters, but we can't help but think it's somehow related to the NAACP bombing and the Jewish synagogue," said Imai.

According to the *Sacramento Sunday Union*, federal agents from the FBI and the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms joined with Sacramento Police on the investigation. In addition, because President Clinton was scheduled to visit the Sacramento area, Secret Service also came to survey the damage.

Sawamura said he thought it might be the work of white supremacists, who have recently become active in the area. "It probably was a skinhead Aryan race group. Fortunately no one got hurt. Volunteers who manned (the office) are mostly senior citizens.

"It sounds similar to the bombing of the NAACP, the offices are six or seven blocks apart. It doesn't sound like a kid prank. They

said Sawamura.

The chapter is estimating damages at around \$20,000 to \$30,000. Sawamura said that among the items lost were a new computer, furniture and chapter records. The board member said the fire was so hot that many of the items were melted.

"It was where we received mail, held meetings and allowed other community groups to hold their meetings," said Sawamura.

For the time being chapter phone calls and mail will be forwarded to the Sacramento County Human Rights Commission. The chapter will also be using

the Human Rights/Fair Housing Commission offices until substitute office space can be found. In addition, the NAACP has also offered its offices and supplies.

See **FIRE**/page 4

How to help

Donations may be sent to: Sacramento JACL Recovery Fund, c/o Sacramento Human Rights/Fair Housing Commission, 2131 Capitol Avenue, Suite 206, Sacramento, CA. 95816; 916/444-6903.

busted the window and threw the Molotov cocktail in. The preliminary analysis showed that it was made out of a flammable fluid plus other chemicals which cause fire to spread at a faster rate,"

Reactions . . .

Following are reactions to the Sacramento Chapter, JACL, firebombing.

● Lillian Kimura, JACL national president, said, "This act goes beyond name-calling. It was a deliberate act of evil. But now is not the time to retreat to a safer position, but a time to be even more vigorous in our fight against racism and discrimination, against violence and hate. We must continue to work for justice and equality."

● Rep. Robert Matsui, who represents the Sacramento area, said, "We've now seen two deplorable acts of hatred in our community within the last three months. The only purpose of this violence is to drive a wedge of hatred deep into our community. The people of Sacramento must stand together and send a signal that we will not allow hate crimes to create a climate of fear and intolerance in our city."

● Paul Igasaki, executive director, Asian Law Caucus, said,

"We are deeply concerned about this latest act of hate violence and we praise law enforcement authorities, especially Police Chief Venegas, for recognizing the incident as a serious hate crime affecting the entire community and fully support their efforts to find the perpetrators."

● Carol Kawamoto, governor, Pacific Southwest District, said, "It was not more than a few months ago when the NAACP offices were firebombed in Sacramento. The escalation of hate violence around the nation is intolerable and must motivate all good people of conscience to stand and confront these tides of racial hatred."

● Ruth Mizobe, vice governor, PSW, said, "Unless individuals in the aggregate rise to meet these challenges posed by those cowards who throw bombs in the night, our future in this society will be filled with more occasions when those same fires will visit our places of work or even our homes."

Checks in the mail . . .

ORA to send 4,000 redress payments

Anticipating imminent approval of the appropriations bill in Congress, approximately 4,000 redress checks are ready to be disbursed in early October for fiscal year 1994, according to a recent report from

ORA Administrator Paul Suddes. Beginning in October 1990, payments for 25,000 eligible individuals have been completed each of three fiscal years. This final group of recipients who were born after Dec. 31, 1943, together with any additional pending appeal cases which may be reversed, will bring the grand total covered by the redress program to nearly 80,000.

Included in the current October group are those children who were born or who lived in camp who had been deemed ineligible because their moth-

ers were considered to have "voluntarily" reentered camp after once leaving. This decision of ineligibility was reversed following a meeting of JACL/JACL/LEC,

See **REDRESS**/page 4

Redress payments by state

As of July 1993

| | | |
|-------------|--------------------|--------|
| Alaska | \$1,926,667.00 | 0.13% |
| Alabama | \$653,334.00 | 0.04% |
| Arkansas | \$970,000.00 | 0.06% |
| Arizona | \$8,119,983.00 | 0.54% |
| California | \$1,088,162,628.00 | 72.34% |
| Colorado | \$22,785,997.00 | 1.52% |
| Connecticut | \$1,379,001.00 | 0.09% |
| D.C. | \$1,007,333.00 | 0.07% |
| Delaware | \$508,890.00 | 0.03% |
| Florida | \$4,710,835.00 | 0.31% |
| Georgia | \$1,435,001.00 | 0.10% |
| Guam | \$66,667.00 | 0.00% |
| Hawaii | \$37,389,812.00 | 2.48% |
| Iowa | \$625,000.00 | 0.11% |
| Idaho | \$6,672,295.00 | 0.44% |
| Illinois | \$58,742,258.00 | 3.92% |
| Indiana | \$1,674,000.00 | 0.11% |
| Kansas | \$595,667.00 | 0.04% |
| Kentucky | \$320,000.00 | 0.02% |
| Louisiana | \$664,000.00 | 0.04% |

See **STATE**/page 4

Motions made at board meeting

Here is a summary of motions made at the Sept. 25-26 JACL National Board Meeting in San Francisco:

Sat., Sept. 25—Morning Session

1—To accept the minutes of the March 20-21, 1993 National Board Meeting as submitted. [M\N: Maebori / Ishii-Jordan - Unanimous.]

2—To accept the audited statements of the Grant-Thornton Accounting firm as submitted. [M\N: Nishi / Kawamoto - Unanimous.]

3—To accept investment guidelines as submitted. The guidelines

are applied to all endowment-type investments as well as restricted funds. [M\N: Nishi / Kawamoto - Unanimous.]

4—To accept the Treasurer's report as submitted. [M\N: Nishi / Hayashi - Unanimous.]

5—To ratify the recommendations of the Executive Committee to make contributions of (a) \$1,000 for the March on Washington, (b)

\$1,500 for the Bruce Yamashita case. [M\N: Kaji / Kishiue - Unanimous.]

6—To retain Mike Mitoma as the chair of the National Endowment Fund Committee. [M\N:

See **BOARD**/page 3

Comments on firing of PC Board Chair Shinkawa

Members express their views . . . pages 5-6

No. 2,728

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Calendar

Canada Toronto

Sat. Nov. 7—Tribute dinner for the late Japanese Consul in Kovno, Lithuania, in 1940, Senjo 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.

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. NOTE: Oral history workshop with Dr. Glenda Nogami, U.S. Army History Institute at Carlisle, Pa., to assist.

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. NOTE—Adjacent exhibits: National Japanese American Historical Society's "Behind Barbed Wire: The Japanese American WWII Experience" and Twin Cities JACL material.

Missouri

St. Louis

Sat.-Sun. Nov. 6-7—International Folkfest of 60 ethnic and international groups, Webster University, St. Louis. Information: International Institute, 314/773-9090.

Colorado

Denver

Sat. Oct. 16—JACL Mile-Hi fundraiser, BBQ supper, Country western dance and sing-along with Mark Saiki, 6 p.m.,

Denver Buddhist Temple. Information: Sumi Takeno, 303/777-1861.

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.; information 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.

Nevada

Reno

Sun., Oct. 17—JACL Reno potluck, noon, Knights of Pythias Hall.

Las Vegas

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

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.

Peninsula

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., Assian 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. NOTE—FRI: 1 p.m. registration, 5-9 p.m. mixer; SAT: 8 a.m. golf at Old Del Monte, 9 a.m. Peninsula tours, Aquarium (10 a.m.), 12n - Peru-Kai luncheon, 1 p.m. - Monterey Bay cruise, 3 p.m. - Panel: Perspectives on the Crystal City Experience, little-known story of Japanese being rounded up in Peru and shipped to Crystal City internment camp to be told by Peruvians Nikkei, 7 p.m. - 50th Anniversary reunion banquet. SUN: 10 a.m. - Sayonara brunch.

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.

Stockton

Fri. Oct. 22—JACL Stockton Fall mixer, 6:30 p.m. Stockton Buddhist church, 2820 Shimizu Dr., Stockton, informaion: Lee Kusumoto 209/466-2315, Aeko Yoshikawa 209/4787-7474. NOTE—Alan Nishi, speaker.

Los Angeles-Orange

Through Oct. 17—Japanese American National Museum Jack M. Iwata photo exhibit, "One More Shot: Documenting Changing U.S.-Japan Relations," 369 E. First St., L.A. Information: 213/625-0414.

Through Oct. 23—Robert Barnett play: "The Hiroshima Daughter," 8 p.m., FATE Theatre Ensemble, 1761 N. Vermont, L.A. Tickets: 213/664-0680.

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.

Sat. Oct. 9—Law Day in Gardena, 1 p.m., Ron Ohata, attorney, "Wills and Estate Planning," Ken Nakaoka Center, 1700 W. 162nd St., Gardena; information: Japanese American Bar Assn., Marty Tachiki 310/458-8336.

Sun. Oct. 10—JACL PSWDC Recognition luncheon, 12 noon, Radisson Hotel, 1400 Parkview, Manhattan Beach. Sun. Oct. 10, L.A. Roosevelt High '43 Class Reunion—Universal City's Sheraton-Universal Hotel, Information: Beth Simon 818/885-1114.

Mon. Oct. 11—JACL Gardena Valley meeting, 7:30 p.m., JCI, 16215 Gramercy Pl., Gardena; information Grace Setsuda, 310/323-7478.

Tue. Oct. 12—Japan America Society/ Japan Business Assn. seminar, 11:30 a.m.-5:30, "Japanese and American Media: Fact and Fantasy in Coverage of U.S.-Japan Relationship," L.A. Hilton, 930 Wilshire Blvd., RSVP 213/627-6217x14.

Wed. Oct. 13—JANM lecture-tour, "Tastes of Little Tokyo: Nabemono," 6 p.m., JANM, 369 E. 1st St., Little Tokyo, 213/625-0414; registration required.

Thu. Oct. 14—APALC 10th Anniversary dinner, 6 p.m. cocktail, 7 p.m. dinner, Westin Bonaventure, 404 S. Figueroa, L.A., Information: Mindy Hsu., 213/748-2022 ext 29, RSVP by Sept. 22.

Thu. Oct. 14—Evening Concert for Children of Bosnia-Herzegovina, 7:30 p.m., Greek Theatre, Information: Bobbi Cowan 818/585-9575. NOTE—Inspired by 'Sarajevo' CD single by Real Music artist Hisham, plus contemporary musical artists, proceeds to Gorbachev Foundation/USA.

Southern California

Sun. Oct. 17—JACL San Diego/ Union of Pan Asian Communities classic film series: "Kwaidan," 2 p.m., Kiku Gardens, 1260 Third Ave., Chula Vista. Information: Kiku Gardens 619/422-4951. Coming: Nov. 21—"Kagemusha" by Kurosawa.

Japan

Tokyo

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

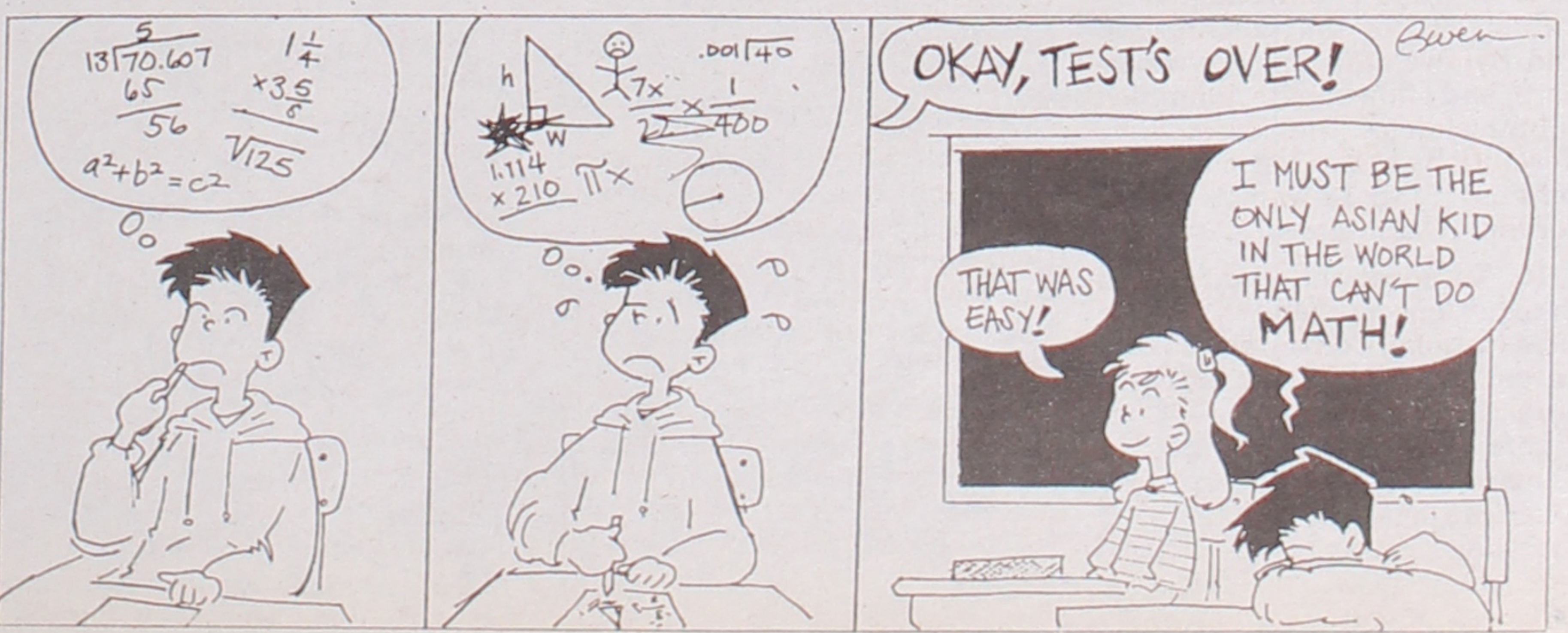
Thu. Nov. 18—JACL Japan chapter elections, 7 p.m., Tokyo Union Church, Omotesando. Information: Kenta Takamori, (03) 3585-3211x1737.

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Small kid time



Gwen Muranaka



IN-SIGHT

BY LILLIAN C. KIMURA

Attack on chapter is reprehensible

As I was preparing an article on the National Board discussion of the *Pacific Citizen*, I was informed of the firebombing of the Sacramento Chapter, JACL, office. This act of violence puts into perspective what we need to be about in the days ahead.

This is the second bombing in as many months of a civil rights organization in Sacramento. When the NAACP office was bombed, the chapter was the first to offer assistance and support. Now, it is in need of support. Who would have thought that such acts would occur in Sacramento, the capital city of California whose voters have sent a Japanese American to Congress for the past 14 years?

Some years ago, Patricia Roberts Harris, then President Carter's Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, told a YWCA convention that "Nobody seems to be angry with the YWCA today. When I joined the movement, there was always somebody who disagreed with our workers' education for union women, with our racially integrated swimming pools and our integrated teenage dances. I sometimes think we need to ask whether our acceptance means we now follow instead of lead..."

If we were to subscribe to Mrs. Harris' contention, JACL must be doing something right because somebody is mad at us—mad enough to act out his hate with destruction. (Of course, this is not the kind of "anger" Mrs. Harris was referring to.) This reprehensible act of violence against a chapter is a call to action. It has been reported that a group called "Aryan Resistance" has claimed responsibility for these firebombings in Sacramento. Folks, we are in the big leagues now. This act goes beyond name-calling. It was a deliberate act of evil. But now is not the time to retreat to a safer position but a time to be even more vigorous in our fight against racism and discrimination, against violence and hate and for justice and equality.

It is not enough to ask the government to look into the deaths of the Japanese students in Baton Rouge and Concord. It is not enough to rue the violence in the streets and the killing of innocent children. We must join in gun control efforts. We must speak out against the easy access of weapons by children. We must work with the educational system to make our schools a safer place. We must make teaching tolerance a priority. We must do whatever is necessary to help shape the

kind of society we want.

It is time for JACL to network with the Southern Poverty Law Center and its Klanwatch Project, which monitors white supremacist and hate crime activity throughout the nation. At the same time, I urge everyone to take caution, especially chapters which have offices and regular meeting places. This includes our own National offices. Strange packages could possibly contain a letter bomb. Do you know whether your local police force has a hate crime unit? If so, it would be good to work with them to help educate members about skinheads and other hate groups.

As JACL becomes more visible in implementing the Program for Action, we must be more vigilant. Our staff live with the potential of danger daily as they go about JACL work. We must give them our support. And we must support the Sacramento Chapter which with the Florin Chapter, JACL, has been out front in working on those issues important to the Asian American community.

Randy Imai is the president of the Sacramento Chapter. I am sure he will have made arrangements to continue to receive mail addressed to: 2124-10th Street, Sacramento, CA, 95818.

Finally, to quote from Mrs. Harris as she concluded her remarks to the YWCA, "We must pursue the life of honor over the life of acceptance and consensus, fame and notoriety. The force of this movement lies in our confident faith that through our daily actions we have the power to set in motion the forces that will guide, direct and bring about the social change necessary for continued health, prosperity and well being of the communities we care about and the nation we love."

"The poet Yeats lamented the indifference of his times and his countrymen. He said: 'We lived as men who watched the painted stage. What matter the scene, the scene once played it did not touch our lives.' He knew, as you and I know, that getting involved does matter, and that the committed life, the life engaged in the search for social justice is the only life for us. And that may not always be comfortable and that if it is too comfortable, maybe there's something wrong." That's thirty for now.

National JACL President Kimura's column appears regularly in the Pacific Citizen.

BOARD

(Continued from page 1)

Kaji / Nishi - Unanimous.]

7—To support the concept of a Legacy Fund Wall in National Headquarters that appropriately recognizes the donors making contributions of \$5,000 or more. The Legacy Fund Campaign Committee shall be responsible for providing a design and budget to the National Board for approval. [M\S: Murakawa / Yoshida - Unanimous.]

8—To send out the revised Organizational Restructure report to the chapters for a referendum vote. [M\S: Ishii-Jordan / Kishiue - Unanimous.] **Additional Board Notation:** A fiscal impact report shall accompany the Organizational Restructure report. The revised Organizational Restructure report and fiscal impact report shall be mailed by the end of September, 1993.

9—To accept the National Resolutions Committee recommendations for the 1994 National Convention while eliminating "e" of Exhibit "B" of the Constitution and Bylaws amendments procedure, and allowing the non-typed submission of the Emergency Resolutions at the National Convention. [M\S: Kawamoto / Ishii-Jordan - Unanimous.]

10. To adopt the Awards and Recognitions guidelines for the 1994 National Convention as submitted for the JACL of the Biennium, Edison Uno Memorial Civil Rights Award, George J. Inagaki Chapter Award and the Japanese American of the Biennium. [M\S: Kishiue / Kawamoto - Unanimous.]

Sat., Sept. 25—Afternoon

Session

1—To accept the recommendation of the Personnel Committee to offer the National Director position to Mr. Randy Senzaki. [Committee Recommendation - Unanimous.]

2—To accept the draft version of the Guidelines on Organizational Decision-Making and Communications presented by Bill Kaneko. [M\S: Ishii-Jordan / Kishiue - Unanimous.]

3—To endorse the legislation for the "New Columbia Admission Act," HR 51, to make the District of Columbia a state. [M\S: Maebori / Kaneichi - Unanimous.]

4—To encourage the Administration and congressional members to increase the resources of the Immigration and Naturalization Service to deal with the large number of immigration cases and ensure that immigrants are treated fairly and that due process is not denied. [M\S: Yoshida / Hayashi - Unanimous.]

5—To vigorously oppose California Governor Wilson's proposal to deny citizenship to children born to parents illegally in this country. [M\S: Ishii-Jordan / Kishiue - Unanimous.]

6—To reaffirm JACL's support of fair immigration laws and vigorously oppose such measures as Sen. Simpson's proposed legislation restricting legal immigration. [M\S: Harano / Ishii-Jordan - Unanimous.]

7—To endorse the Go For Broke National Veterans Association and the concept of a Nikkei / 442nd monument in Washington, D.C. [M\S: Kaji / Kawamoto - Unanimous.]

8—To support the efforts that

have been made by the Spokane Chapter JACL, with the Democratic Party and give the National Director and National President authority to assist the Spokane Chapter with further efforts in this regard, and to provide regional Staff support. [M\S: Ishii-Jordan / Harano - Unanimous.]

Sun., Sept. 26—Morning Session

Additional Board Notation: To create a TaskForce consisting of Bill Kaneko, Sharon Ishii-Jordan, Lillian Kimura and representatives of the *Pacific Citizen* to address the concerns of the Pacific Citizen-JACL relationship. The Committee will also develop interim guidelines. The Committee will begin working with the *Pacific Citizen* as soon as possible.

1—To ratify the appointment of Lucy Kishiue as the Interim PC Board Chair. [M\S: Nishi / Hayashi - Unanimous.]

2—To support Lillian Kimura's decision to request Paul Shinkawa's resignation from the PC Board Chair position. [M\S: Yoshida / Kaji - Unanimous.]

3—To support the concept of hiring Student Organizers to outreach college and universities for the purpose of empowering youth and connecting them to existing (JACL) chapters. [M\S: Murakawa / Nakahara - Unanimous.]

4—To support the concept of a second National Leadership Development Program for the purpose of developing board skills, teaching grassroots leaders the

See BOARD/page 4

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ORA schedules redress payments

(Continued from page 1)

and NCRR representatives with Acting Assistant Attorney General James P. Turner in August.

On some of the other appeal cases, Suddes stated they were examining the situation of the

Phoenix cases in trying to determine if there were actual tangible losses. The status of the Peruvians' retroactive citizenship is being reviewed by the Immigration and Naturalization Service. "To some extent we are reviewing those people who left the West Coast before the government order became effective," said Suddes. On the minor children who were expatriated to Japan, Suddes stated, "If we can find a way to resolve this administratively" before going to court, that would be "the preferred approach."

The dollar amount of total redress disbursements to each state as of July 1993 were released from the ORA office. Not surprisingly, California residents received the bulk of redress disbursements, totaling well over \$1 billion dollars, or 72.34%, for the first three years. Second was the state of Washington where redress re-

ipients received over \$102 million, or 6.86%. Payments to eligible individuals in foreign countries, included Japan and Canada, as well as such diverse locations as Germany, Italy, Brazil, Peru, United Kingdom, and Netherlands.

Payments by state

(Continued from page 1)

| | | |
|----------------|------------------|-------|
| Massachusetts | \$1,707,334.00 | 0.11% |
| Maryland | \$5,782,047.00 | 0.39% |
| Maine | \$180,000.00 | 0.01% |
| Michigan | \$8,356,428.00 | 0.56% |
| Minnesota | \$6,107,501.00 | 0.41% |
| Missouri | \$2,907,500.00 | 0.19% |
| Mississippi | \$20,000.00 | 0.00% |
| Montana | \$850,000.00 | 0.06% |
| North Carolina | \$1,117,334.00 | 0.07% |
| North Dakota | \$80,000.00 | 0.01% |
| Nebraska | \$1,324,000.00 | 0.09% |
| New Hampshire | \$260,000.00 | 0.02% |
| New Jersey | \$9,095,690.00 | 0.81% |
| New Mexico | \$1,785,001.00 | 0.12% |
| Nevada | \$7,591,691.00 | 0.61% |
| New York | \$13,133,754.00 | 0.88% |
| Ohio | \$10,743,170.00 | 0.72% |
| Oklahoma | \$531,667.00 | 0.04% |
| Oregon | \$31,808,119.00 | 2.12% |
| Pennsylvania | \$4,733,682.00 | 0.32% |
| Puerto Rico | \$20,000.00 | 0.00% |
| Rhode Island | \$200,000.00 | 0.01% |
| South Carolina | \$282,857.00 | 0.02% |
| South Dakota | \$280,000.00 | 0.02% |
| Tennessee | \$515,151.00 | 0.03% |
| Texas | \$5,612,525.00 | 0.37% |
| Utah | \$13,215,830.00 | 0.88% |
| Virginia | \$4,101,334.00 | 0.27% |
| Virgin Islands | \$20,000.00 | 0.00% |
| Vermont | \$120,000.00 | 0.01% |
| Washington | \$102,843,695.00 | 6.86% |
| Wisconsin | \$2,506,667.00 | 0.17% |
| West Virginia | \$180,000.00 | 0.01% |
| Wyoming | \$598,000.00 | 0.04% |
| APO Boxes | \$440,000.00 | 0.03% |

FIRE

(Continued from page 1)

Imai said that the chapter's functions, activities and events will not be canceled or postponed by the bombing.

"The organization will continue despite the destruction of its office," said Imai.

Sawamura was optimistic about the future, noting the many people who had come out in support of

the chapter. A press conference set for Oct. 5 is scheduled to include representatives from JAACL as well as representatives from the police department, city council and various human rights groups.

"I'd like to tell members that it's a temporary setback," said Sawamura. "It's devastating in some ways but the Sacramento Chapter will come back better and stronger than ever."



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BOARD

(Continued from page 2)

role of JAACL in their communities, and for training trainers to develop and implement strategic plans within their chapter and communities. [M\S: Murakawa /Harano - Unanimous.]

5—To fund the development and printing of a JAACL Chapter President's Handbook up to \$7,500. [M\S: Murakawa / Ishii-Jordan - Unanimous.]

6—To approve the Convention Site Selection Committee's recommendation that the San Jose Chapter host the 1996 National Convention. [Committee Recommendation (one dissenting vote by Teresa Maebori, EDC governor.)]

7—To support the concept of a National Youth Conference Award to honor an Asian American Youth who has served as a positive role model. [M\S: Kaji / Nakahara - Unanimous.]

8—To confirm the appointment of Helen Kawagoe and Jeff Itami to fill the vacancies of the 1000 Club Life Trust Committee. [Committee recommendation - Unanimous.]

9—To grant a chapter charter to the Georgia Chapter of the Eastern District as the 114th chapter of the organization. [Committee recommendation - Unanimous.]

Next Board Meeting—Feb. 5-6 or Feb. 12-13, 1994.

—JAACL National Headquarters, Sept. 30

DIRECTOR

(Continued from page 1)

nel committee which selected Senzaki consisted of chair Neal Taniguchi, vice president, General Operations, Lillian Kimura, ex-officio committee member; Hisami Yoshida, governor, Pacific Northwest District; Bob Sakaguchi, Mile Hi Chapter; Karen Suzuki Okabe, director, Human Resources Management Department, State of Utah; Gary Mayeda, APAN Chapter; and Patty Wada, regional director, NCWNP.

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Opinions



From the frying pan

BILL HOSOKAWA

An assault on *Pacific Citizen*

On the weekend of Sept. 25-26 the National Board, JACL's governing body, attempted to emasculate *Pacific Citizen* as a newspaper. It sought to usurp *Pacific Citizen's* constitutionally mandated right of editorial independence and convert it into a docile mouthpiece for the National Board and the paid staff.

That is the only way to interpret the deplorable, unseemly events of the weekend meeting in which PC's news policies were under consideration. As the discussion grew heated, JACL President Lillian Kimura directed Paul Shinkawa, president of the PC board of directors, to order the staff not to publish a detailed account of the proceedings until issues were resolved.

Shinkawa declined to do this on the ground that under JACL's constitution and by-laws, responsibility for PC editorial policy rests not with the National Board or the president, but with the PC board. He contended that discussions about the way their newspaper was run was a matter of general membership interest and decisions should not be made in secrecy.

President Kimura then asked for, and got, Shinkawa's resignation.

The curious aftermath is that no one—

not Kimura, not Lucy Kishiue who was named to succeed Shinkawa—gave Richard Suenaga the gag order that had precipitated Shinkawa's ouster. Suenaga did what any professional would do; the next issue of PC carried in excruciating detail an account of the controversy.

The upshot is that the National Board and headquarters staff emerge from the melee looking naive and petulant at best. They appear as public figures who abhor the thought of having their actions scrutinized. They are on record as contending they, rather than the duly constituted PC board, should control what appears in print. One official was quoted as saying public relations are more important than objective reporting, a viewpoint that reeks of manipulation of the news for the benefit of those in power. In other words, conceal what is embarrassing or inconvenient, keep the public in the dark because we rulers know best.

Another participant in the meetings, aware of staff resentment, said, "I'd much rather have a strong staff than journalistic independence." That misses the point; the accountability brought about by independent press scrutiny improves performance.

People doing their job have nothing to fear from snoopy journalists.

Although Editor Suenaga is still running the paper, as he was hired to do, the struggle for control is not over. Even before this column is published, if it is, there may be new efforts mounted to muzzle PC. As this is written, nothing was changed by replacing Shinkawa with Kishiue and those who would overhaul policy would have huffed and puffed for nothing. Shinkawa deserves not censure but gratitude for upholding principle.

Since *Pacific Citizen* is a membership publication, JACLers can make whatever they want of it. It will be a sad day for JACL if they decide they want a bland newsletter faithfully and unquestioningly reprinting press releases from officers and staff rather than an independent, often provocative, enterprising newspaper asking questions of the powerful in the best American traditions of a free press. ☐

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

Letters

Arizona Chapter supports PC role

The *Pacific Citizen* has continued to give the rank and file chapter members information that keeps them informed as to the operations of the Japanese American Citizens League. This information is of utmost importance for the healthy growth of the JACL.

Constructive criticism is a necessary thing and all of us should be able to bear with it including all levels of JACL national officers and staff. The *Pacific Citizen* has been discreet in the articles written in the past. For the person who takes the criticism for a personal vendetta, that is a shameful thing in itself.

In my opinion, the *Pacific Citizen* should be allowed freedom in the publishing of pertinent articles as the editor feels should be in the newspaper. All of us are members of JACL including the *Pacific Citizen* staff and I believe that this staff would not do anything to harm the JACL.

Not following advice of the JACL legal counsel concerning the JACL national constitution and bylaws is a very dangerous step for any JACL officer or staff person to take.

I am a life member, National JACL Council member, and a chapter president and do not take these things lightly. We have been working hard to recruit new members as well as trying to keep our current members.

Let's back off, take a deep breath, relax, and go on with building a better organization.

Joe Allman

President, Arizona Chapter, JACL

APAN Chapter member criticizes PC coverage

I am writing this letter to comment about the content of the entire Oct 1-7, 1993 issue of the *Pacific Citizen*. First I feel it was entirely self-serving because there were columns issuing only the perspective of the past PC chair and the PC editor and the story, which was a compilation of quotes from the National Board meeting, featured only one follow up interview with a PC board member and not any National Board or National Staff member.

I was appalled to see in big bold type, the headline, "KIMURA FIRES PC BOARD CHAIR," on the front page. This phrase, although it may be a feeling that was shared by the former PC chair, several members of the PC board and the PC staff, is not a truthful telling of the events that took place. First, he was asked to resign, which according to published reports in the *Pacific Citizen*, he did. Secondly, Mr. Shinkawa states in his own commentary that he served at the pleasure of the National President, thus eliminating any doubt that she could remove him at any time and for any reason.

See LETTERS/page 6

Pacific Citizen editorial

By RICHARD SUENAGA

Leadership lost

What happened on Sept. 25-26 at the San Francisco national board meeting was a debacle. What didn't happen was leadership.

Before the torch is passed to the Sansei, perhaps we need to go back to our Nisei predecessors and gain experience, wisdom, and knowledge.

Throughout a weeks worth of turbulence over the firing of Paul M. Shinkawa as chairman of the *Pacific Citizen* board of directors, many members of the Japanese American Citizens League have focused on constitutional rights and the role of *Pacific Citizen*. Rightly so. This issue on its largest scale is and will be discussed at length in the future.

But that isn't the only issue. We are also talking about leadership. We saw conduct unbecoming our leaders. What wasn't demonstrated by the bullies who took over the meeting was leadership that uses vigorous thinking not volatile emotion.

Some JACL leaders acted in their own private, personal interests at the national board meeting. Egos surfaced; statesmanship faded. Marinaded in a Saturday night fever of power moves and might-makes-right logic, some of our JACL leaders whipped the board into a state of mind where reason could no longer prevail. Once

prudent behavior was abandoned the only result could be the Sunday session in which, amid hostile acrimony by national staff and some board members, the PC board chairman was fired.

Where was the leadership? Where were the voices of reason and restraint that commanded thoughtful deliberation that would lead to a solution? They remained silent in the face of lynch-mob rhetoric.

Instead of equanimity, the weekend sessions were filled with nasty rhetoric by some of our staff and board members. The minutes of the meeting should record that a regional director angrily demanded Shinkawa's firing. A governor also made it personal with her agreement, set off in cold and blunt terms. Another regional director added her invective tones, resentful about what she characterized as PC monitoring of her work. A national staff member added his own, saying that the national staff could not trust the PC staff. Yet another regional director angrily repeated his theme of media interference with his job. Another JACL staff member continued to pursue the *Rising Sun* controversy as she has at every previous JACL gathering, despite many who were trying to elevate the discussion and arguments to broader, higher, and less personal levels. A national board member

in simplistic fashion wanted to end it all by cutting *Pacific Citizen* off from the national organization. Yet another board member said that the PC article on Jap Road was solely responsible for the loss of a potential \$40,000 fund-raiser honoring Dennis Hayashi.

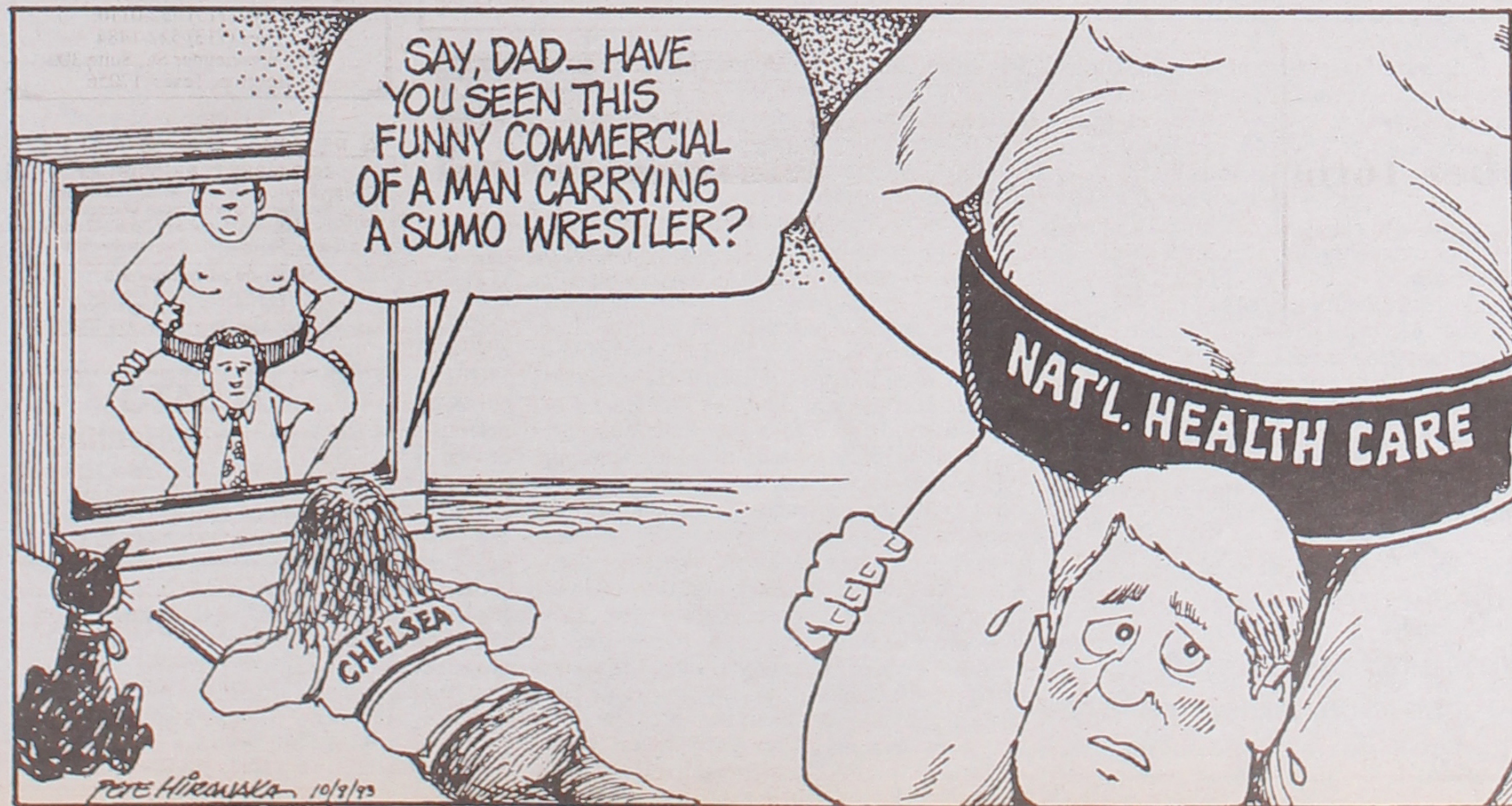
These JACL leaders must all answer for their actions—the ruthless and calculated removal of the PC board chair for an unconstitutional reason.

No one on the national board defended Shinkawa or his defense of the JACL Constitution and By-laws. Nonetheless, Shinkawa remained calm; he never raised his voice once despite the concerted and overwhelming attack by these staff and board members. He demonstrated patience, perseverance and integrity. Even when fired by the president, he extended his thanks, appreciation and respect to the national president and board.

This national board meeting will surely be branded as one of the worst failings of JACL leadership in its long history.

It is also telling of the kind of leaders who have grown up with a belief in raw power, in a world where power is its own reward. They've adopted a coterie leadership style in which slavish conformity of thought is

See LEADERSHIP/page 8



Pacific Citizen Policies

Editorials, columns and cartoons

The opinions, views and statements in the editorials, columns and cartoons appearing in *Pacific Citizen* are those of the authors and as such do not necessarily represent the Japanese American Citizens League. *Pacific Citizen* editorials, columns, and cartoons of staff will be clearly labeled as such.

Pacific Citizen welcomes for consideration editorials and columns from members of the Japanese American Citizens League, the Japanese American community at large, and beyond. They should be no longer than approximately 500 words. Send them to: Editorial Opinion, *Pacific Citizen*, 701 E. 3rd St., Suite 201, Los Angeles, CA, 90013.

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Pacific Citizen welcomes letters to the editor. Letters must be brief, are subject to editing and those unpublished can be neither acknowledged nor returned. Please sign your letter but make sure we are able to read your name. Include mailing address and daytime telephone number. Because of limited space we may condense letters that are accepted for publication. We do not publish form letters, copies or letters written to other publications. Fax letters to 213/626-8213 or mail to Letters to the Editor, *Pacific Citizen*, 701 E. 3rd St., Ste. 201, Los Angeles, CA, 90013.

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D.C. notes

By KAREN K. NARASAKI

The power of the media

One of the most startling truths I have learned in my service to JACL as its advocate on national issues, is the absolute power of the media. Many journalists are fond of saying, "I don't determine the news, I just report it." However, because they decide what news is worthy of print and what angle to report it from, for all practical purposes, they do determine the news. Media also prefer to write about conflict. Positive stories are viewed as "fluff" and do not win journalistic awards. Because of the press's power to determine what gets into press, it is often difficult to ensure that the power is being wielded wisely.

Reading recent PC issues, you might come to the conclusion that JACL has been attempting to prevent members from debating issues or providing constructive criticism about the organization. That is simply not the case.

The concern has been focused not on "what" PC covers, but how. PC is charged with a very difficult task. Although JACL's Constitution and Bylaws provide it with some measure of independence, it is charged with being JACL's "official publication" and

"educational and public relations project." The question for the PC board and editor and the National Board and President is how to reconcile independence with public relations.

At the recent national board meeting, one PC board member muttered "we are not an advertising agency" when the issue was raised. To many journalists "public relations" is a dirty word, beneath the ideals of true journalism. However, given the current structure of the relationship, PC clearly does have some obligations to JACL to ensure that JACL's positions are clearly and accurately communicated. As JACL's "official publication," PC's actions do affect JACL's ability to fulfill its mission.

Unfortunately, any criticism of the PC has become perceived as an attack on journalistic integrity. PC, quite naturally, does not want to accept any limitations on its independence. Yet it is imperative that an understanding be reached for the good of both JACL and its newspaper.

Take for example the recent coverage of the film, *Rising Sun*. A PC staff and I were the first JACL staff members to attend a

prescreening. I sought her opinion since JACL was considering its response. She refused to discuss it with me since she was a "journalist for the PC." We are supposed to be working on the same team, yet PC chose instead to wait to attack JACL's position in print and to give no warning to JACL of its action.

Articles written by PC and other National staff are viewed by outsiders who read the PC as reflecting the official opinion of JACL. PC's opinion piece created confusion among the general public over JACL's position.

This confusion was avoidable. PC could have provided PC readers with the same opposing viewpoint without itself taking a position. In fact, the issue already included the viewpoint of one of the *Rising Sun* actors. If that needed to be bolstered, Twentieth Century Fox or others involved with the production could have been invited to submit an article.

Even more serious was the fact that the confusion not only hurt JACL, but coalition members with whom JACL works on these issues. It caused some organizations to re-

consider their decision to participate in the coalition and made it difficult for others to mobilize their members for the protest. Twentieth Century Fox and others used it to attack the credibility of JACL and its coalition members. Mainstream newspapers questioned staff and reported on the conflict. JACL was put in the damaging position of having staff members contradict each other on a national position, publicly having to disown its own publication and apologize to coalition members for the effect on our joint efforts.

Even with this knowledge, PC still continues to frame the issue as a First Amendment problem rather than working together in achievement of shared goals. This despite the fact that JACL welcomed discussion about the movie and suggested alternative ways debate could have been generated that would not have created the same problems.

Once a position is taken, it is critical that JACL not appear to work against itself or its coalition partners. That does not mean

See NARASAKI/page 7



Sidebar

By MEI NAKANO

A cutting blow

"Here comes a candle to light you to bed, here comes a chopper to chop off your head."

You remember the story of Sir Thomas More? You know, the man for all seasons, who, as Lord Chancellor under Henry VIII, refused to recognize the supremacy of Henry and was promptly beheaded for this blasphemy? The beheading of Paul Shinkawa, board chair of the *Pacific Citizen*, who met his demise at the hands of President Lillian Kimura and the National Board, smacks of the same wrongheaded thinking. They got rid of a man for standing on principle, one with which they could not logically quarrel.

As you know, if you read the last issue of PC (Oct. 1-7), Shinkawa refused to obey the president's order to instruct the PC staff to refrain from publishing details of the board meeting at hand. He refused on constitutional grounds: "My oath is to the primacy of the JACL Constitution . . . I do not have the authority or privilege to decide whether the Constitution is right or wrong but to carry it out." He also felt it important for the membership to be apprised of the proceedings.

Letters

(Continued from page 5)

I welcome open debate on any controversial issue but I feel that the PC has now taken this to a point where all that is left is to choose up sides and go to war. The problem is that I cannot be assured that what here I express will not be accompanied by an editorial position defending the PC's actions. Perhaps the issue of the what the PC is will be settled by the next National Convention but judging from this past week's issue, what it has become no more than a big bag of dirty laundry.

Craig Minami

Encino, Calif.

Correction requested on PC board story

This is a request for a formal retraction of the misquoted statement attributed to me in the article, "Kimura fires PC Board chair" (Oct. 1-7). I know it is your policy, as expressed in your response to the Northern California-Western Nevada-Pacific District Council's request for P.C. information, dated Sept. 22, 1993, that "nothing should be taken out of context or out of perspective."

The P.C. quoted me as saying, "I know our district has disagreed with P.C. In talking with (Shinkawa), I know that you're convicted." This paragraph [on page 5] took my comments out of context and placed a

different perspective on their intentions.

My comments regarding Paul Shinkawa's "convictions" were in no way related to the PSW District's disagreements with him. They were my sincere endeavor to compliment him on his steadfast adherence to his interpretation of the JACL Constitution and Bylaws. I feel that your rephrasing of my comment left readers with the impression that I had "convicted" him in some Kangaroo Court. I would point out that during that National Board weekend, I had discussed at length with Paul my district's P.C. concerns. So, your erroneous statement misrepresents the mutual respect Paul and I share.

In closing, I would like to say that I agree with your editorial statement that the important question is what is right and what is best for the organization. It is my personal hope that the formation of the ad hoc committee comprised of National Board members and P.C. Board members will help resolve the issues and preserve JACL's unity and strength.

Carol Kawamoto

PSWDC Governor
San Diego, Calif.

Wrong action taken at National board meeting

The description of the events taking place at the JACL National Board meeting of Sept 25-26 in San Francisco revealed ac-

Kimura on the strength that she had "lost confidence that he could be part of the team," it's clear that she took the action—urged on by the National Board—to muzzle the folks at PC.

That would do damage to us all. We would be faced with the real danger of getting sanitized news, material that serves first, the interest of the JACL leadership and, in the offing, leads us down a primrose path. Yes, the *Pacific Citizen* is the official organ of the JACL, but it cannot slant its content to make the leadership—or the organization, for that matter—"look good." As Denny Yasuhara said, in his excellent letter to the editor, (PC 8/27-9/2) "... the PC is the only source of information many members have and it should be as objective as possible so that JACL members can have a better understanding of the issues at hand. It cannot parrot the JACL leadership blindly."

I, for one, believe that JACL is mature enough, confident enough, to take the strains of a lot of rocking and rolling. We have the stuff to deal with reality; we don't need to dance, masked with a false face. In the long

haul, we will be better—stronger and more resilient—for having confronted issues with honesty and having learned by our mistakes.

And I need to say this: More times than I can count, readers of PC have told me how much they appreciate the look and content of the paper under editors Suenaga and Muranaka. I wish their comments could have been put to print. I think even the JACL leadership, in spite of differences with the editors, would acknowledge their intelligence, their talent and their perseverance.

That said, I should also say I am mindful that this is not an "us against them" issue. In a volunteer organization in which the majority of the leadership doesn't get paid, they don't have much to gain by "winning." In a good decision, we all win; in a bad one, we lose.

Nakano, Nisei author of "Japanese American Women: Three Generations," is presently working on a book about her father. Her column appears monthly in the *Pacific Citizen*.

tions taken that were highly unnecessary and damaging to the organizational leadership and membership of the JACL. Based on the accounts of four writers given in the Oct. 1 edition of the *Pacific Citizen*, the strong-arm decision of President Lillian Kimura and most of the other members of the Board to oust PC Board chairman Paul Shinkawa has weakened the organization when it needs strength; created the greatest polarization among supporters of the CL in recent memory and has brought into question the qualifications of the top leadership of the front line civil rights organization of the Japanese American community.

It was incredulous to read about the acrimony and emotion that existed in the meeting that led to the irrational dismissal of Shinkawa by Kimura. In the heat of the debate, wouldn't it have been better to avoid the ultimatum laid down by the Board to Shinkawa in favor of a less fractious outcome? Shouldn't there have been a "cooling off" period for further study of the basic issues (not the distracting side issues that only fueled tempers) followed by actions that caused less alienation? Were the consequences of such short-sighted actions taken into consideration before Kimura's decision was made?

In the eyes of the membership, the issue of the control of the PC by the Board is simply one of journalistic independence as stated by counsel Allen Kato's legal opinion, the National Constitution and the Bylaws. Why did Kimura side-step Kato's opin-

ion (in his absence), which was clearly understood, and go headlong into her decision? And why did almost all the other members of the Board timidly follow Kimura? Is it a fear that caused the JACL not to want the outside world to see their internal divisions—a hanging-out one's dirty laundry? It is a weak organization that can't allow internal differences and debate and a stronger one that can. An example is the question of the *Rising Sun* issue and the position of the PC to publish all sides of the controversy. Let it be known that opinions on all sides exist in the JA community and that the CL through the PC is responsible enough to publish them. Are other major civil rights organizations so self-righteous as to deny internal differences?

The historical rift in the Japanese American community caused by the controversial actions taken by the JACL in the early days of World War II still beset the organization despite the many and substantial advances made by the CL on behalf of the JAs through the years. As the future course of the CL is being considered and civil rights challenges continue to escalate, the JACL cannot afford to lose support in the JA community.

The rash decision of President Kimura may have strengthened her position with the Board but it certainly weakened the commitment of the members to the leadership. It is anticipated that the discord generated over the Shinkawa dismissal isn't

See LETTERS/page 7



By the board

By TRISHA MURAKAWA

New National programs

Members have a right to know what programs the National Board has adopted on behalf of the membership. Because these were not reported in the last issue of the *Pacific Citizen*, I feel the need to inform the membership. I had submitted for adoption three proposals, which I believe could help JACL in its effectiveness to carry out the Program for Action and make the membership grow.

(1) JACL Leadership Training Institute—Currently, the most visible and only national leadership program within JACL is our Washington, D.C. Leadership Conference, providing JACL leaders the opportunity to learn how policy is made in the Nation's capital and what JACL's role is in that process. However, only a handful of lucky members benefit, since it is limited to 16 people.

I proposed to create a second leadership development program to be implemented nationally for a diverse group to develop broad skills in members, teach grassroots leaders the role JACL plays in their respective communities, enhance their critical thinking skills and explain how strategic plans are developed and implemented through JACL chapters when confronting community issues.

The program has three stages: (a) a national leadership committee will develop a leadership curriculum for comment by National Board; (b) three sessions for trainers to implement the Institute in each of the eight District Councils and (c) ten monthly training sessions for Institute participants.

The proposal outlined a curriculum that included the development of analytical skills, how to

assess organizations and understand their role, networking, developing presentations, resolving conflicts, understanding power, strategic planning, community organizing, and mastering media skills. Each participant has a project or exercise at the end of each session that utilizes the skills learned and successive sessions will draw on skills from prior sessions.

Teaching vital skills in community work can only enhance the National organization. Where there are no JACL staffers to assist in implementing the Program for Action, as trained volunteers they will be able to successfully handle any civil rights situations. With this skilled volunteer corps, JACL will move forward as the premiere Asian American civil rights organization in the nation.

A budget for this proposal sits with the Finance Committee to recommend to the National Board.

(2) Student Organizers—This is a one-year demonstration project of "hiring" student organizers to outreach targeted colleges and universities to create a stronger, visible JACL presence on campus, empower Japanese American youth and connect collegians with existing chapters. More than 20 years ago, when JACL initiated the first "student organizer" program, Junior JACL was thriving. This program deserves to be reactivated as part of revitalizing the JACL membership.

It is a fact that JACL membership base is primarily older and has not changed much by attracting younger members. It is also a

See PROGRAMS/page 8

Voices

By RANDOLPH SHIBATA

PC Board controls policy

"If destruction be our lot we must ourselves be the author and finisher'.... Abraham Lincoln 1838.

It is my greatest fear that the events of September 25 and 26, 1993 may accomplish something that the FBI, Franklin Roosevelt and the Hate Mongers of today could not do. That is destroy JACL.

It was with great anguish and sorrow that I read the accounts of the dispute between the National Board, the Staff and the PC. Paul Shinkawa is from my district. I consider him a friend. I encouraged Lillian Kimura to run for her successful effort to gain the Presidency of JACL. I consider her a friend.

I have had the distinct honor of serving the membership of JACL as a District Governor, and Chair of the Governors Caucus and on the Select Committee on Structure. In those roles, as the current board did, I too questioned the role of the *Pacific Citizen*. In those roles, I believed that the National Board should have more authority over the *Pacific Citizen*.

But my belief was then, and still is incorrect. As a District Governor, I questioned a particular cartoon in September of 1991. I was told then, by almost all members of the board, including then Chair of the PC Board Lillian Kimura, that the Board could not dictate editorial policy of the *Pacific Citizen*. As a member of the Select Committee on Structure, we originally proposed to move the PC under the control of a Vice President for Communications. No other area of the initial restructure plan generated as much resentment on the part of the membership. This idea was dead

before we reached Denver for the National Convention. My old position, that the PC should be controlled by the National Board, was incorrect for a variety of reasons. Of course, there is the legal position as stated by Mr. Kato. But the main reason that the PC should not be under control of the Board is that the membership has consistently backed the independence of the PC Board in setting policy for this vital part of JACL. The PC, the National Board and the National Staff must obey the wishes of the membership. It is my belief that Mr. Shinkawa believed that he was following this edict. It is my hope that the National Board believed that they too were following the wishes of the Rank and File JACL Member. But I believe the members merely wanted some clearer definition and adjustments to the system. The actions of the board on September 26th went too far. It was tantamount to treating a bunion on a toe by cutting off the leg. Now we have a hemorrhage of JACL's life blood, the trust of the membership.

This hemorrhage of trust is also exacerbated by the reported unwillingness of the Board and the National staff to be held accountable by the membership for their actions. I hope that this is not true, but I fear that it is true. When I was a member of the National Board, I felt that accountability to my district and its members was the most important duty that I had. I welcomed their comments and criticism. I believe that all those who aspire to the role of leader of anything, be they the President of the United States,

See PC BOARD/page 8

NARASAKI

(Continued from page 6)

that individual members cannot take issue with national's position. It should mean, however, that at a minimum JACL and PC staff do not work at cross purposes.

The PC sees itself as a "watch dog" for the members. It is difficult for the PC to play a watchdog role consistent with its obligation under JACL's basic documents to be a public relations project for JACL. This is a role that is more appropriate for the National Council and National Board to play. To the extent that it may be appropriate for PC to play that role, it should not do so to the ultimate detriment of the members and JACL's mission. As recent events have proven, it is all too easy for PC to fall into the media trap of exhibiting independence by focusing on the negative and viewing anything positive as "propaganda."

It is sometimes difficult to reconcile *Pacific Citizen's* editorial independence with its unique relationship to JACL. However, JACL's Constitution and Bylaws attempt to ensure that a balance is struck by giving the National President the right to appoint and remove the *Pacific Citizen* Board chairperson. Now that the National President has acted, I hope we can refocus our energy on JACL's primary mission as a civil rights organization. Millions of Asian Pacific Americans are depending on it.

Narasaki is the JACL Washington, D.C., representative.

LETTERS

(Continued from page 7)

going to go away. If the Allen Kato opinion and the Constitution and By-laws support an editorially independent PC as it should, events such as transpired in San Francisco need to be examined.

Perhaps an independent and impartial inquiry is called for. Because of Kimura's and the Boards actions, the membership needs to be assured.

Ike Hatchimonji
Torrance, Calif.

In defense of the American Friends

For the last several months, I have been reading about the Jean Ishibashi case in the PC. . . . Now that the trial is over, I feel I must speak out for the American Friends Service Committee.

For the last 10 plus years, I have been a volunteer in the Friends office in Chicago. I have served on the Chicago Personnel Committee and the Great Lakes Regional Executive Committee of AFSC. I have been on numerous search committees for various positions. . . . In the weeding-out process, however we have unfortunately found few qualified Third World applicants and the reason for this is obvious. If you are trained for human service work, you would work in your own ethnic community where the needs are much more urgent. Believe me, we really try to meet the affirmative action target guidelines and have even conducted a second search for the same position to try to meet those guidelines.

As for Ms. Ishibashi's position being terminated, I can assure you that her program was eliminated for budget reasons just like it was in every region. . . .

I am not writing to pass judgement on Ms. Ishibashi's situation. All I want to do is to point out to my fellow Japanese Americans that the AFSC is staffed by all kinds of people, who are not necessarily saints, but it continues to voice its support and help the victims of war, oppression, and poverty both here and abroad just as it did in 1942, I hope you will not abandon an organization who was there for us when others were not.

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PROGRAMS

(Continued from page 7)

fact that a substantial number of the members enjoy the benefit of the health program. Hence, the JACL leadership at all levels have contemplated new and used ideas on how to increase membership.

As I see it, the JACL student organizer should plan and administer programs, special events, workshops, conferences, rallies at these colleges where Japanese American students groups exist. If not, perhaps a JACL club on campus can be created. Student groups can decide their own program, linkup with other student groups or become partners with the local JACL chapter and distribute currently available JACL material or produce new leaflets to attract student members.

Once adopted, a joint committee of staff and volunteers can assist student advisers, help them coordinate campus events, get local chapters involved and make certain all the targeted institutions are visited.

The proposal is not intended to usurp the responsibilities of a District Youth Representative, but the full-time paid student organizer's job is to work with volunteers to create a JACL presence on campus and recruit more members. JACL must look to train younger generations to secure a future for itself, to carry on the work of civil rights for Japanese Americans and others.

(3) Chapter President's Handbook—Overwhelming support for a chapter president's handbook was expressed at the last National Convention in Denver and at prior National Board

meetings. Much of the information contained in the book produced by the Pacific Southwest District Council, being national scope, has been recommended. It would benefit all chapter presidents. Despite the past reluctance over the huge production costs, the National Board has approved to cover the cost as a one-time expense and fund the Chapter President's Handbook proposal for distribution at the 1994 National Convention at Salt Lake City.

National JACL owes it to the chapters, the backbone of the organization, the benefit of this valuable resource.

Murakawa is JACL National vice president of Planning and Development.

LEADERSHIP

(Continued from page 5)

the initiation fee. They want free-wheeling policies and no one looking over their shoulders.

Now, more desperately apparent than ever, JACL needs quality leadership. Leaders who are able to exhibit exacting, searching and scrupulous thinking as well as rigorous adherence to principle and the courage to stand by them.

Suenaga is the editor/general manager of Pacific Citizen.

PC BOARD

(Continued from page 7)

a CEO of a Corporation, a Football Coach or a leader of JACL must understand that part of the

job is that persons will hold you accountable. In JACL, this means that every member of the National Board, the PC Board, the PC Editor, and the National Director must realize that the 25,000 stockholders of this organization, i.e. the Rank and File members have a right to know, and a right to criticize, if they so choose. This right to criticize does have limits based on common sense. But I believe that it is possible to write policies and procedures that protect the rights of Employees without compromising the right to a Free press.

But whether you agree with me or not, I do hope that you will agree that peace must be restored. As a past member of the National Board, I have reviewed the positions of the PC Board (as stated by a member of that Board), I have read the National Office's statement in the PC. It is my belief that their initial positions were not that far apart. Use of a small amount of good business judgement, common sense, communication and respect for the other side could have resolved the problems, and probably in less than an hour. The National Board and PC Board could have obtained a win-win conclusion. I hope that we can still have a win-win conclusion. But I doubt it. The current situation, if allowed to continue will create a win-lose or a lose-lose conclusion. If there are any losers in this dispute, there will be a third loser . . . the membership.

We are not enemies but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained, it must not break our bonds of affection. The mystic chords of memory, stretching from every battlefield and patriot grave to every living heart and hearthstone all over this broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature . . .
Abraham Lincoln, 1861

Shibata is a past MPDC Governor, 1990-1992, and chair of the Governors Caucus, 1991

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OKINAWA-KYUSHU HOLIDAY TOUR OCT 28 - NOV 7
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