

JULY 1984

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REDRESS EFFORTS MOVING AHEAD

In Congress on June 20, 21 and 27, 1984, a House Judiciary Subcommittee held hearings on the redress bill, H.R. 4110. Among those testifying before the Subcommittee on Administrative Law and Governmental Relations were Congressman Mike Lowry (D-Wash.), who emphasized the issue of violation of Constitutional rights; Robert Matsui (D-Calif.), who stressed the need for monetary compensation to help defer future action of this type, and Norman Mineta (D-Calif.), who gave moving testimony on the hardships his family suffered during internment.

Said Mineta: "Chiseled in the marble over the Supreme Court it does not say Equal Justice Under the Law Except When Things Get Sticky. It says Equal Justice. And that is what we ask for, Mr. Chairman. No more. No less. We have waited 42 years. The time has come."

Speaking on behalf of JACL were Minoru Yasui and John Tateishi. The Nisei Vets were represented by Mike Masaoka and Bill Kochiyama and the National Coalition for Redress/Reparations speaker was Bert Nakano.

Others speaking in favor of the bill included Reps. Sala Burton (D-Calif.), Mervyn Dymally (D-Calif.) and members of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians whose recommendations formed the basis of the redress bill. Among the recommendations is payment of \$20,000 to each surviving former internee.

Although the Washington Coalition on Redress, of which the Seattle JACL Chapter is a member, requested time to testify, the hearing schedule was full and we could not be accommodated.

In other redress news, last month the chapter held a letter writing "party" at which time some 20 letters from Chapter members were sent to President Reagan urging his support for the redress bills. Many more letters are still needed; we are asking everyone to write to Reagan and urge his support of H.R.4110 and S.2116. The mailing address is: President Reagan, The White House, Washington, D.C., 10500.

Another victory for redress occurred last month at the meeting of the U.S. Conference of Mayors. The redress resolution submitted by Seattle Mayor Charles Royer was passed by the full membership. The resolution calls for Congress to adopt the recommendations of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and to pay the monetary compensation sought by former internees.

Mayor Royer answered questions concerning the resolution during the conference discussion and defended the need for monetary compensation.

-- Wayne Kimura

SIZEABLE DONATIONS BOOST REDRESS MOVEMENT

The latest among those generously sharing their redress compensation is Thomas Kobayashi, a former Seattle City Light employee who was dismissed from his job in 1942 and was recently awarded \$5,000 through a city ordinance sponsored by City Councilmember Dolores Sibonga. Out of the first half of redress payments, Kobayashi donated \$1,000 to Seattle JACL Redress Committee and the Washington Coalition on Redress. (Earlier, Sumi Haji Kuriyama, also a former Seattle City Light employee, donated her entire \$5,000 payment to Keiro Nursing Home in memory of her parents.)

continued

Redress, continued

Others who have donated to the redress effort recently are: Fumiye Masunaga, Margaret Arase, Yoshiaki and Yukiko Takahashi, Roy Sakamoto, Norichiyo Makino, Ben Matsumoto, Howard and Sumi Minato, Mas and Marie Honmyo, Kathleen Knight, Tosh and Jo Anne Naganawa and Edwin and Mayme Nishimura.

JACL NATIONAL CONVENTION COMING SOON

The JACL 28th National Convention will be held from August 12 through 18 in Honolulu. The threefold purpose of the convention will be to: formulate national policies for JACL for the next two years, to nominate and elect national officers, and to meet JACL representatives from throughout the country.

To be nominated as an alternate delegate or if you need further information, contact Ben Nakagawa or Jerry Shigaki.

CHAPTER NOTES

The Seattle Chapter's Monthly Board Meeting will be held at 7:30 pm, Wednesday, July 18 at the JACL office. Discussion will focus on the upcoming National Convention in Honolulu.

The recent JACL Pacific Northwest District Casino Night held on June 30 was a success with almost 250 persons attending. Recognition should be given to Ben Nakagawa, who chaired the event which brought in a small profit for the chapter.

A limited number of copies of "And Justice for All," a compilation of testimonies by Japanese Americans who were interned during World War II, edited by John Tateishi, are available at \$18.95 at the JACL office. Please call the office at 623-5088 and come down to pick up your copy before the supply runs out. (Autographed copies are available for \$25 by writing to the national headquarters of JACL.)

HONORS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Cherry Kinoshita, tireless worker for JACL and redress, will be honored as one of two JACLers of the Biennium at the national convention in August. The other recipient is James Shimoura of the Detroit Chapter, who was instrumental in the recent outcome of the case of the Vincent Chin murder.

Kinoshita, a native of Seattle, was interned during the war, then later went on to graduate magna cum laude in sociology from the University of Washington. She has worked on the redress bills which provided compensation for Washington State, City of Seattle of Seattle Schools employees who lost their jobs at the outbreak of World War II, was a founder of the Washington Coalition on Redress and has been long active in national, district and Seattle chapter activities of JACL.

George Tsutakawa, whose sculpture commemorating the internment of Japanese Americans in the Northwest was placed at the Puyallup Fairgrounds in a ceremony last summer, was given the highest honor awarded to an alumnus of the University of Washington, Alumnus Summa Laude Dignatus. The award honors a former student whose work has attained national or international prominence. Tsutakawa is a former U.W. professor of art whose sculptures appear in many locations in the U.S., Japan and Canada.

Tim Gojio, a Seattle sansei and law graduate of the U.W., has been named national JACL's Washington, D.C. representative. He has been serving as the attorney with the Washington State Senate's Republican Caucus. Gojio was instrumental in the passage of the State of Washington bill providing redress for former state employees.

Norman Mineta, California Congressman, has received the American Road and Transportation Builders Assn. award for exceptional service to the nation's transportation program. Mineta now serves as chairman of the Aviation Subcommittee of the House Public Works and Transportation Committee and is a member of the Surface Transportation Subcommittee.

1000 CLUB GOLF TOURNAMENT SET FOR JULY 29

The Seattle JACL's 1000 Club 13th annual tournament will be held Sunday, July 29 at Jefferson Golf Course. Starting time is 11 am, rain or shine, say tournament organizers. Two flights, one for men and one for women are set and lots of prizes, such as the perpetual trophy for the lowest net score in each flight, will be awarded.

Entry fee is \$8 but you must reserve a space by July 20. Call Charles or Mary Furuta at 725-6387 for information. Dinner at Silver Dragon Restaurant, 421-7th Ave. S. will follow the tournament.

Pairing and starting times will be determined by the Tournament Committee. For those without an established handicap, Committee will determine his or her handicap.

"NO MORE HIROSHIMAS" PROGRAM IS PLANNED

"No More Hiroshimas, No More Viet Nams," a program memorializing those who died or continue to suffer effects from the use of atomic bombs, will be held at 2 pm Sunday, August 5 at Bloedel Hall of St. Mark's Cathedral, 1245-10th Ave. S.

The program will draw connections between nuclear holocaust, conventional war and military intervention through speakers' presentations, poetry and photography displays. Cosponsors include the JACL-PNW District, Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign, Physicians for Social Responsibility, American Friends Service Committee and others. For information, call Stan Shikuma at 632-0588.

"INNOVASIAN" DANCE CONCERT TO PREMIERE

"InnovAsian," an original dance concert, will premiere at the Nippon Kan Theatre on July 28 and 29. JACL members will get a discount off tickets for the Saturday, 8 pm performance. The Sunday performance will be Sunday at 2 pm.

"InnovAsian," directed and choreographed by Marian (Bengie) Santos, is an artistic composition presented for the first time in this area and draws on Japanese, Chinese and Filipino dance traditions to create an artistic and visual experience. Santos received her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Cornish Institute and her Master of Arts degree from Western Washington University.

The production by Asian Multi-Media is sponsored in part by the Seattle Arts Commission. Tickets are \$6 for JACL members at the Saturday night performance, \$7.50 for others. The tickets for Sunday afternoon are \$5 per person.

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JACL HONORS STARS OF THE FUTURE

The Seattle JACL Chapter Board honored four outstanding high school graduating seniors with scholarship awards May 16. Each of the four were selected for outstanding scholastic achievement, community service and extracurricular school activities and were awarded scholarships of \$600.

The Minoru Tamesa Memorial Scholarships were given to Katherine Jitodai, Lisa Tamekuni and Michael Yamashita. Mr. Uhachi Tamesa awarded the three checks and certificates of recognition.

The Rev. Emery Andrews Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Kenlyn Kiuchi and presented by Rev. Paul Nagano, pastor of the Japanese Baptist Church.

Katherine is a graduate of Franklin High School and will attend Yale University in the fall. Lisa, of Renton High School, will enter the University of Washington. Michael, a graduate of Garfield High School, will begin his college studies at the University of Puget Sound. Kenlin, also of Franklin High School, will attend the U.W.

Mr. Tamesa started the scholarship fund in 1979 with a generous donation in memory of his son and has added to it in succeeding years. The fund has been supplemented by contributions from the congregation of the Japanese Baptist Church and the Seattle JACL Chapter. This year, a contribution also was received in memory of Isaac Sakuma. Scholarships are supported by income derived


continued



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Seattle JACL, page 5  
Scholarships, continued

from the fund.

The award ceremony was moderated by Calvin Takagi, chairman of the scholarship committee. Recipients were introduced by other committee members including James Hattori, Diana Kato, Hiroko Nakagawa and Jan Yoshiwara.

COMMUNITY NOTES: International District Summer Festival is July 15, 11-5 at Hing Hay Park. . . Asian Women Writers Program is July 20, 7:30 pm at Wing Luke Museum. . .

Bon Odori is July 21-22 at the Seattle Buddhist Church. . . Tomo no Kai will hold its meeting August 18 at Kawabe House; program includes a talk on Meiji-mura and also voter registration. . . Don't miss "Innovasian" dance concert at the Nippon Kan July 28-29! . . . The Japanese Government is offering scholarships for those interested in doing research in Japan. See next month's newsletter for details. . .

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