







By Bill Hosokawa

# From the Frying Pan

PEOPLE—One of the requirements in writing a column is this to find a "Nisei angle," the permissible to talk about Khrushchev and the Cold War, the possibility of a tax cut, or the next moon probe if there's a Nisei angle somewhere. Sometimes it's like pulling teeth with pliers to find an angle, especially when one lives in a place like Seattle where chances are that one doesn't see another Nisei for weeks on end.

Thus, the visit to Seattle for the national JACL convention was a fine way to get caught up. And we learned that there's even a Nisei angle to the space race. At least three are on a Boeing team designing a vehicle for exploring the moon. Anglier Nisei has a key job having to do with the supermart instruments that protect the lives of astronauts when they're in space.

The visit enabled us to meet some old friends, the active is used advisedly, and get caught up on their families. For example, Dr. Kelly Yamada, who had a full head of hair when we last saw him about 30 years ago, reported proudly to his son, Ena. Dexter Yamada, was aboard a U. S. Navy helicopter somewhere off Viet Nam. Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Imamura said their oldest son was an officer with a U. S. Army artillery unit in Korea. Chick and Shigeko Uno have a grandchild and Roy and Jo Sakamoto are in the same. Tom and Kiyo Sakahara are grandparents, too, and it was added that these three couples are the youngest grandpas and grandmas I've ever seen.

QUEENS—Very much in evidence at most convention sessions was Queen Ellen Kimura (whose father, Sam, was pretty far left-handed basketball player when I knew him) her court of Pat Baba, Penny Beppo, Janet Hoshide, and the Tatumis, who was the only one I didn't meet. The first girls promptly lost all interest in me when I made the girl report of asking who their fathers were, for that faintly dated me as just another old fogey.

Each of the girls was an equine baby, born in a vacation camp or during the rehabilitation period, and their teenage beauty dramatized as nothing else how rapidly time is fled.

Queen Ellen helped many a JACL bigwig pass out sundry pills, pins and other awards, but not once did we witness favoring the recipient with more than a smile or handshake (which she did most graciously). However, inasmuch as the kiss from the queen has become a standard part of American presentation ceremony, its absence from the Seattle convention ritual ought to be noted by historian Scott Sakawa as proof that Nisei assimilation is not yet complete.

POLITICKING—Pat Okura's successful campaign for the national JACL presidency was aided and abetted by the coalition of "I'm for Pat" buttons and Union Pacific matches. California delegates, mindful of the hot campaign for governor, wondered whether the reference was to Dick Nixon's wife, Pat, or Pat Brown. And I suppose it would be perfectly all right if Okura, in the course of some of his speeches in the coming biennium, decided it was convenient to go by Union Pacific.

ADVENTURE—We found in Seattle there's even an interesting Nisei angle to the Cold War. Betty Yumori of Venice-Culver chapter, who gained a measure of fame as a girl who prefers king-size beds, spent part of World War II in North Korea. She was caught in Japan by the war, found natives less friendly and sought refuge with relatives who were living in North Korea.

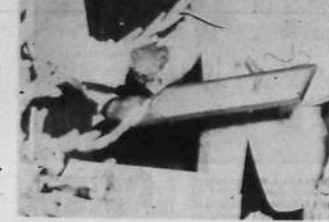
After the war the Russians moved in and things rapidly became unpleasant. Betty and various kin took off in a small boat, bobbed around for days before they were rescued by American naval patrol, and restored eventually to the U. S. A. for which everyone, especially Betty, was most grateful.



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**YAMASAKI ACCEPTS 'NISEI OF BIENNIUM' SCROLL**  
Shig Wakamatsu (left), chairman of the National JACL Recognition Committee, which selects the Nisei of the Biennium, hands

## Citations: Nisei of the Biennium 1960-2

Only citation presented at the Recognition Banquet was the beautifully illustrated scroll to Mitsuo Yamasaki, the 1960-2 Nisei of the Biennium and JACL gold medalist honoree. The citations of the four silver medalist winners were read to the audience and are being published in this week's Pacific Citizen.

**Minoru Yamasaki**  
Detroit, Michigan

Minoru Yamasaki has gained for the profession of Architecture, not only in this country but throughout the world, a new distinction filled with beauty and serenity. By actively blending his understanding of Japanese art and culture with that of Western architecture, he has attained in his professional philosophy of humanism which seeks to elevate the dignity of man in his environment, a philosophy dedicated to and consistent with the human ideals of democracy.

His contributions to American and world architecture are impressive and enduring. They serve to highlight the distinguished contributions of Japanese Americans to the contemporary American scene. The personal recognition and prestige accorded this eminent American has brought immeasurable honor to all Americans of Japanese ancestry.

The Japanese American Citizens League is proud to bestow its highest honor upon Mitsuo Yamasaki, Nisei of the Biennium, 1960-2.

**Mayor Tom Kitayama**  
Union City, Calif.

Tom Kitayama epitomizes the American who, successful in his own business, has been moved by a deep social consciousness to turn his talents and energies to the betterment of his community. Twenty years ago, when the Kitayama Brothers nursery was still in the infancy of its growth, he wanted to pay the time hired man's wages. Today that hired man is foremost of a staff of more than 130 employees. The Kitayama nursery is the largest producer of ornamentals in the United States and Kitayama himself is a leader in the California floral industry.

In 1959, when Union City was incorporated, Kitayama ran for city council and was named mayor by virtue of receiving the greatest number of votes. He was re-elected mayor in 1962 on his record of good government and far-sighted planning for thriving, fast-growing community composed of persons of many diverse backgrounds.

Over and above his professional and political success, Kitayama is a man of impressive personal warmth and understanding. Residents of his community look to him as friend and counselor. Many come to him with business, personal and organizational problems. He has taken a leading role in civic group and campaign too numerous to list here. "He is a

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## Chinese-American judge hears case suing county grand jury system bans Negroes

LOS ANGELES—Charges that Negroes are "systematically excluded" from Los Angeles County grand juries were leveled by two Negro lawyers last week (Aug. 1) in the Superior Court before Chief Judge American Judge Delbert R. Wood.

The judge has indicated all motions will be considered and set for hearing next Sept. 17.

The 19 members of the grand jury are selected from a drum containing the names of 20 nominees who are drawn by chance from a list of nominees submitted by the 120 superior court judges in Los Angeles County. Each judge is entitled to nominate two prospective grand jurors.

During the past 10 years, five Negroes have been on grand juries, the first in 1957 and 1958.

## Dr. Senodo serves on new WLA bank as director

LOS ANGELES—A new independent bank has been formed to serve West Los Angeles and Beverly Hills areas. The bank, known as the West Los Angeles Bank, is headed by Dr. Senodo, Life member of the County Club and active West L.A. JACLer.

Capitalized for \$15 million, the bank was organized by Dr. Senodo, a member of the business and social community leaders in the area. On the board of directors are Dr. Senodo, Life member of the County Club and active West L.A. JACLer.

## TOURS RUSSIA

SALT LAKE CITY—Craig Imamura, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. Imamura (State Nodori), has returned from a trip to Soviet Russia. He was accompanied by his wife, Mrs. Imamura, and a group of Japanese students of high school age. They also included some other European citizens.

Dr. Senodo, commissioner, vice-president and director of the University of California at Santa Barbara, a club he organized, membership drive for the Community Chest. Red Cross, Boy Scouts, and the Y.M.C.A. building fund; coach of Junior basketball teams for the Santa Barbara and Shrine.

John Yoshino  
Washington, D.C.

No internal problem of American democracy is more explosive, more critical, more challenging, than the problem of race relations. John Yoshino, because of his particular skills and background, was selected by his agency to a special White House task force with the difficult mission of eliminating discrimination in places of public accommodation along Route 401 between Washington and New York City. Yoshino's work resulted in the passage of a number of laws and regulations to bring legislative action in the state of Maryland, to alleviate a problem with important international implications.

In his regular position with the Committee on Equal Employment Opportunity, Yoshino has been instrumental in developing job opportunities without regard to race, creed or color in many state and local situations.

Yoshino, now 32, received a bachelor's degree in labor relations at Roosevelt College of Chicago, and a master's degree in public administration at Loyola of Chicago in 1953. He is a native of Alameda, Calif., and has served as JACL chapter officer in Alameda, Chicago and Washington.

Presently he is chairman of the Eastern District Council and represented the JACL at the White House Conference on Youth, and the White House Conference on Aging. He was nominated for Nisei of the Biennium by the Washington, D.C. chapter.

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## Nisei team wins COO STATE BOWLING TITLE

PT. LUPTON—Greasy Maytag's mixed 10-20 handicap series to win the California Bowling Assn. state tournament recently on the squad were Kenji Kiyota, George Matsushima, Howard Kahler, Yoko Sunata and Harry Matsushima.

George Matsushima, a part chapter president, won the national all-events, won a 1959 score. He also teamed with Sato Nishimoto of Pt. Lupton to place second in the handicap doubles with 1221.

## Rexburg JACL Little League team takes championship

SUGAR CITY, Idaho—The Rexburg JACL Little League were guests at the chapter picnic, a weekend at Green Canyon Hot Springs July 20. Coaches Hiroshi Miyasaki and John Sakata were honored for mentoring the kids in the league championship.

Among the 18 players were Jim Hanami, Daryl and Gary Miyasaki, Alan and Darwin Sakata and Douglas Sakata, all sons of local JACLers.

## Issei history writer succumbs in Japan

OAKLAND—Yoshi Kogo, long-time resident of Oakland and one of the founders of the Japanese Independent Church, died June 26 at the age of 80, according to reports received from Japan.

Kogo was the author and publisher of the volume on the history of Japanese in America. One was a chronicle of events published in 1927 concerning Japanese in this country, gleaned from newspaper reports.

## Atlantic City pioneer

MORRIS PLAINS, N.J.—George H. Hashimoto, died here after a brief illness on July 24. He recently retired from his Atlantic City amusements business after 35 years and was living with his son, Toshio, and family here.

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