





By Bill Hasekawa

# From the Frying Pan

**A MATTER OF COSTS** — Nisei looking for an inexpensive vacation in Japan can find one if they're willing to be satisfied with the standards of the ordinary Japanese. But if they're going to insist on American standards, they can expect to pay American prices. And if you want to keep up with the expense account crowd, bring lots of money, as much money as you'd take to New York for a similar round of activities.

Transportation is one of the country's biggest bargains. You're adventurous and wise enough to avoid the rush hours, the subways and elevated trains are great for getting around Tokyo. They'll take you almost anywhere for 20 or 30 yen (ten yen is 2.8 cents). If you have a strong heart, you'll know your way around the city, want a thrill, a second don't mind traffic jams, take a cab. The way they scoot and the streets is a caution, but they also get caught in some monumental traffic. Most cabs are metered and start at 100 yen (\$28 cents), with the meter jumping by yen increments. A dollar will take you quite a distance.

Railway fare is equally reasonable. There's a basic fare, premium for travel on a limited express, another premium for first class accommodations, still another surcharge for reserved seats. Even so, you will be able to travel the 320 miles to Osaka for 5,700 yen first class or less than \$16, the super limited express scheduled to start operations October.

The super limited express, making only one stop, is said to make the run between the cities in just three hours. Speed of service is comparable with air service—just a bit slower in the air, but time-consuming bus or taxi rides can add up. Plane fare is 6,000 yen, or \$16.73.

**FOOD AND SHELTER** — Unfortunately, you can't be eating all the time. You have to eat, and you have to sleep. A fine bowl of noodles the other day for about 15 cents, and rice in a first rate (but not name) establishment for less than a dollar. It's easy to eat your way well into a \$5 at a tempura or sushi house, but if you pick more modest places you can cut your costs in half.

If you pick a Western style hotel, you'll get accommodations up to American standards, service that may not be quite efficient but is certainly less surly, and you'll pay American prices for both food and room. Canned orange juice, bacon eggs, toast and coffee is a dollar to a dollar and a half at most hotels, which is more than you'd pay in a state-side eatery; but considerably less than the \$4.50 which I remember being stuck for in a plush New York hotel. Lunch dinner prices are comparable. Coffee and teaspoons and, featuring everything from Danish-type pastries and main courses to hi-fi music. One place is spread out over three floors, as I recall with an string orchestra serving customers from an elevator that shuttles between floors.

Drinking and nightclubbing are another matter. You can buy a bottle of beer for 100 yen at a small bar or beer garden, the other hand, a friend of mine and two companions had one of the dimly lit name bars, had four drinks among them, bought one drink each for the two hostesses who sat with them, and when they stood up to go a half hour later, bill was 14,000 yen. That's a cool \$39. At the next place they had one beer and coffee and were charged 4,000 yen (\$11). They thought the charges were somewhat exorbitant, but what the heck, they had expense accounts. They signed bills and decided to let the company auditor worry about it.

That's life in Tokyo. You can find a delightful little wooding for a few hundred yen, or magnificent figurine for hundreds of dollars. What you spend depends on you, and where it's much or little, you'll find it fun.

Harry Tajiri's column, "Vagaries," will appear next week.)

## Ohye made honorary Tokyo citizen, 2nd Nisei to be acclaimed since Mike Masaoka

BY TAMOTSU MURAYAMA

(Special to Pacific Citizen)

**TOKYO**—Everyone expected Nisei aviator Ohye to arrive here on the 4th of July—America's Independence Day, but plans to greet him were tabled when news came he had landed at Okinawa instead. But his arrival here July 7 was just as momentous for the day stars the annual Tanabata, the festival of the stars. The festival relates the love of a herdsman and a weaving girl—the herdsman is the star in Aquila and the weaving girl is the star Vega, which dwell on opposite sides of the Milky Way, or the Milky Way, never meeting except on the seventh night of the seventh moon or July 7, on the point of the 23rd-moon plane.

Ohye's plane, the Tokubana, appeared over the Tokyo skies in the form of the star Vega, which is a cloudy day, so the stars weren't visible, but Ohye's smiling and proud face was.

Zensai, Akuma, the "Chon Sany" star of pre-war days, who had taught Ohye and others to fly, went out to welcome and escort the Tokubana to International Airport, Akuma flew over Europe and

Siberia back in 1930 to create a transoceanic aviation as a globe traveler (crossing the ocean, however, by ship). Foreign Minister Ohira congratulated the Nisei flier for his magnificent accomplishment of soloing across the Pacific. Tokyo Gov. Ryusuke Akuma gave him the key to the city and made him a honorary citizen. Ohye is the second Nisei to win this acclaim, the first being Mike Masaoka.

"In this let age, I never expected this kind of overwhelming reception and welcome," Ohye said in this reporter. TV, press and radio interviewers were all pressing hard on the pilot of the 23rd-moon plane.

He is now in the process of delivering messages from the 17 California cities with Sister City ties in Japan.

He had made a great name for the Nisei in Japan.

Ohye now plans to return in this single engine Piper Comanche via Alaska, taking off from Tokyo around Aug. 10.

## Stockton Japanese eye new project area

**STOCKTON**—Establishment of a religious-community center in the West End Urban Renewal Project has gained serious consideration of local Japanese. The city's redevelopment agency learned recently.

In a letter to the agency, Rev. LaVerne S. Sakaki, pastor of the Buddhist Church of Stockton, disclosed that the church is interested in moving into the project area when it is forced to vacate its present quarters at 148 W. Washington St. by the Westside Freeway.

Rev. Sakaki said the church's steering committee is eyeing the block bounded by Main, Market, Center and Commerce Sts. on block north of the present church. John Jacobs, executive director of the agency, said he has had some preliminary, exploratory talks with the church.

Rev. Sakaki proposes creation of a tax-paying Japanese commercial center, in effect an objection to the agency and the city council might have to selling cleared land to a church that does not pay taxes. The redevelopment agency already has plans for a new and revitalized Chugachin in the urban renewal project.

Rev. Sakaki said the church is in no way committing itself to relocating into the project area, but is expressing its interest in the project. The necessary cost and other figures on which to base a decision.

Agency members referred the matter to their land disposition committee for study.

## Crescent Boy Optimists

**LOS ANGELES**—The Los Angeles Optimist club covering the Venice-Culver-West L.A. area, organized last week with Sakai, maguchi as president. It was sponsored by the Westside Nisei Optimist, now headed by George Kim.

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## Buddhist support court decision against prayers

SAN FRANCISCO — The Buddhist Churches of America board of directors supported the recent U. S. Supreme Court decision against prayer in public schools.

John Ohnaka of Thousand Oaks, president of the Western Federation of Buddhist Sunday School Teachers. The resolution also opposed the proposed Buddhist amendment, calling for use of prayers in public schools.

## Buddhist scout chaplain

SAN FRANCISCO — The Rev. Hogen Fujimoto, youth director of the Buddhist Churches of America, was named chaplain to nearly 100 Buddhist scouts who will attend the 4th National Jamboree at Valley Forge, Pa., July 17-24.

James Nakagawa of Los Angeles, president of the Jamboree public relations staff, will be chairman of the July 19 service.

## Crenshaw square festival

**LOS ANGELES**—The fifth annual Oriental Summer Festival at Crenshaw Square is underway this week, closing with ondo dance Saturday and Sunday, 4-8 p.m., it was announced by Willie Fujimoto, general chairman.

Program includes cultural exhibits, joko and karate exhibitions, talent show, musical and fashion show at Tai Ping.

## Garden Show president

**OAKLAND**—Kiniko Fujii of Hayward was named president of the California Spring Garden Show, the First District Agricultural Association's big event of the year here. She was appointed to the district board by Governor Brown in 1962 and to a full four-year term in 1964.

She is associated with Fujii Nurture in Hayward, which she and her brother, Kenji operate.

## Community Picnic

**CHICAGO**—The Nisei Post Jr. drum and bagge corps will perform at the Japanese community picnic Aug. 2 at Northwestern Woods in Des Plaines.

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## Sumitomo bank promotes 5 Nisei

SAN FRANCISCO — Jack Kusube was named assistant vice-president and assistant secretary of the Sumitomo Bank of California, according to Makoto Sasaki, president. It is the highest management level to which a Nisei has been appointed in the bank's 11-year history.

Kusube joined the bank in 1954, was promoted assistant cashier in 1959, and then assistant manager of the Administration Dept. in 1962. Other important Nisei promotions were also announced: Art Mitagawa, assistant manager; Aki Morikawa, assistant cashier, both at Sacramento; Bill Sakakura and Richard Iwano, assistant cashiers, business dept., San Francisco.

## Training Supervisor

SAN FRANCISCO — Active JACL member, Toshiyuki was promoted agency training supervisor for the Guardian Life Insurance here.

## Lake Tahoe Conference

**LOS ANGELES** — Bud Fujimoto, Mac M. Hori and Bill Yamashiro of the Cal-Western State Life Insurance Wilshire agency addressed the company's leading producers council at Wagon Wheel Hotel, Lake Tahoe, this past week. They were among 25 agents who placed more than a half-million dollars each of new life insurance this year.

## Monzonor '44 reunion

**LOS ANGELES** — The Manzanar High School class of 1944 will hold its 20th anniversary reunion July 18, 6:30 p.m., at the Ambassador Hotel, Venetian Room, according to Dorsey and Sasaki, Keith Williams and his orchestra will play for the dinner-dance.

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## 100 Sensei expected for Tokyo Olympic youth camp

SAN FRANCISCO — About 100 Japanese American youth are expected to be among 900 American youth, ranging in ages from 15 to 25, during the Tokyo Olympic Games Oct. 6-23 at the Olympic World Youth Center at Gakko University, located near the Imperial stadium.

Participants are required to pay for their transportation \$30 per person and \$1 a day for meals. Each will get tickets for four morning ceremonies Oct. 19. Admission forms are available from the local Japanese consulate general, 601 California St.

## Jr. golf tournament

SAN JOSE — The third annual Bay Area Nisei Golf Assn. Junior tournament will be held on Aug. 23 at Hillview. Participants must be Nisei between 7 and 18 and must be under 12 by Aug. 12 to Frank G. Mada, 1540 Santa Paula Ave. There are no entry fees. The winners should include handicaps. If any, and playing experience.

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