

PACIFIC CITIZEN

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Ye Editor's Desk

INSIDE THE LOS ANGELES RIOT AREA

For three nights this past week, there was a tempest of rioting in the neighborhood. We live in the northwest sector of the 40 square mile area declared as "unsafe" because of the chaotic rioting, thus subject to an 8 p.m.-to-dawn curfew by proclamation of the Governor.

Some persons in the area may have been uneasy by the enforced hush, broken up by an occasional wall of sirens or whistles in the still night air, the rumble of Army trucks transporting Guardsmen from their bivouac to their posts and a mookingbird serenading the full August moon. But I felt quite relieved at home, knowing the "unsafe" zone was under constant surveillance.

As statistics of the aftermath came to light, now that the curfew has been lifted, nearly 400 buildings were burned down or destroyed by fire in about as many blocks within the curfew area. Most of them were commercial. Only two homes were burned down—and these were adjacent to commercial structures. There is no count as yet on the number of buildings which sustained minor damages, such as broken windows—but these must be in the excess of 1,000.

Coming out of the barricaded curfew zone in the mornings driving into L.A. Tokyo, there were National Guardsmen in combat fatigues and camouflaged helmet, shouldering their rifles with bayonet at momentary intersections. Some directed traffic. Three sat in a jeep parked nearby. These guys had mounted machine guns. If there were some burned out buildings on the corner, they were remembered a war zone—which was not to believe. And the soldiers were there when we re-entered the curfew area before sundown.

The cars we saw being stopped or searched by the soldiers or police officers all had Negro occupants. And this practice seemed to prevail within the curfew area. Not all of the cars with Negro occupants were being stopped however—since we only got around during the daylight hours during the curfew period. All vehicles entering the curfew area after hours were automatically checked. It was about 10 years ago that the military was doing the same if circumstances of the car happened to be Oriental or Japanese more specifically.

Before the curfew was declared, the three nights preceding were disquieting. Sirens crooned constantly. The night air was hot and sticky. Local television covered the riotous and havoc from the air by helicopter, giving the audience a bird's eye view.

And since the night a highway patrolman made his routine arrest of a youth for drunken driving near Watts, he conversation stations were filled with opinions of why he riot started, what ought to be done, etc.

I'm convinced that the Negro racial stereotype is more pronounced than ever—though clearer heads offered logical rebuttal to little avail.

In back of my mind, there was a fear that the old Japanese racial stereotype could be evoked, if circumstances allowed it, to the ruin of that precariously perched perchant that the Nisei are "in" today.

The City of Angels where race relations was regarded as the up-swing is no better than those communities in the South and the North where anti-minority blood has been shed. I guess Angelenos were only fooling themselves. One young Negro boy from Watts told us he was glad the riot took place for it exposed the problem in all of its nastiness. Discriminations in the past have been subtle or silently borne by the Negro, he explained, but now the whole world knows Los Angeles has a big problem.

The first morning after the curfew was imposed, we drove into the Broadway-Vernon area (where we used to live until the Harbor Freeway pushed us out) which was a shocking scene of smoldering ruins. Roofs of buildings had crashed into the ground because of the fire, shop windows were smashed and merchandise looted. Bold signs reading "Negro-owned" or "Blood Brother" in front spared some shops. Instead of smug smattering our eyes, there was that smell of fire in the air there.

The devastation was even more unbelievable a mile eastward at the Central-Vernon area. That part of town was really blitzed. It was enough and we didn't think to venture down E. 103rd St. in Watts to see the destruction there.

We aren't cynical enough to believe these business sections will not rise. As one non-Negro businessman in the area stated, "The people are here. I know them and they know me."

What will make Aug. 11 (night the riot started) memorable for a group of JACLers is that we were meeting at the L.A. County Commission on Human Relations, discussing ways to strengthen the lines of communication between the Negroes and Japanese American in the community. We envisioned a program which would also involve other Oriental groups as well as the Mexican Americans. While the riot has cancelled Nisei Week for all intents and purposes, it can only spur the need to have a constant dialogue between the Negro and Japanese in our community.

While we condemn serious rioting and the flaunting of law, we must not fall into the trap of stigmatizing a whole race of people, many of whom believe in making America a better place to live in for all.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"The riots in Los Angeles represent the thinking of a small minority of Negroes." —Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Some News from Home

PC Letter Box

Vernacular press

The Pacific Citizen (Aug. 6) carried an article "Hawaii Times to celebrate 70th year" by Allen Bookman in which he states "The Nippon Shobo apparently first appeared June 2, 1885. Consequently, it is not only the first Japanese language paper in Hawaii, but probably in all America." Perhaps the writer does not know the history of the Japanese on the mainland.

The first Japanese newspaper called Shin Nippon (New Japan) was published Oct. 1885 by Konomi Yamaguchi, who was a political refugee from the Japanese feudal government and whose address was Room 31, 1311 San Pablo Ave., Oakland, Calif. The paper addressed a constitutional government and freedom of press in 21 pages. It was published twice a month by hectograph process and most of the 200 copies were sent to Japan where they were confiscated by the Japanese government.

Subsequently the paper's name was changed several times: Juku Seiki (19th Century), Jyu (Freedom), Shin Kyoji (New Generation), Kakumei (Revolution), and Ensei (Overseas) by the several political refugees and continued to be published until 1892. All issues were banned by the Japanese authorities. These are the pioneer publications by Japanese in America.

KARL G. YONEDA
220 Fresno/Vina
San Francisco, Calif.

IDC

(Continued from Front Page)

aged. He also told of the progress of the JACL-sponsored medical insurance programs in California and the Northwest.

Health Plan Sought

IDC will poll its memberships for a similar program and has asked National Headquarters about the feasibility of a plan covering Utah, Idaho and Oregon. The Salt Lake JACL, which reported the four Samuel baseball teams in the area are anxious to challenge other Samuel teams in the IDC. The age of member team members range from 18-21, juniors 12-15 and seniors 16 and over.

Boise Valley JACL, which recently hosted a Boys State banquet, reported the project amounted to \$200, which is to be shared by the Idaho chapters. Snake River Valley JACL was the only one responding to its commitment. The luncheon was hosted by the Idaho JACL chapters as a gesture of appreciation to the American League, sponsors of Boys State, for its outstanding support of the BSA. I (covering the local ban on voting rights in Idaho) anticipate several years ago.

Abu Sabin, IDC vice-chairman, presided in the absence of chairman Kiyoshi Sakata, who was unable to attend because of an unfortunate accident incurred by a member of his family.

Norm Inouye, IDC chairman, presided at the separate youth session.

EVERY CHAPTER should send every eligible citizen of Japanese ancestry in the community a registered voter.

House Immigration Bill

Washington
It is considered likely that the House Judiciary Committee will pass the Revised Administration Immigration Bill this week for floor debate and vote sometime next week.

And, even if Democrat Howard Smith, Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, and an acknowledged foe of liberalized immigration policies, tries to hold up the necessary clearance, under the Trade rules, the immigration bill can be scheduled for floor action by September 12.

Once the House is provided the opportunity to vote, with President Johnson so deeply committed, House approval is about as certain as anything in politics can be these days. Whether there will be time left for the Senate action also this year, however, is problematical, especially if adjournment takes place in mid-September.

Regardless of the timetable, JACI and persons of Japanese ancestry can take heart from the general acceptance that appears after decades that race should no longer be considered a qualification for immigration. Indeed, even among those who oppose the elimination of the National Origins Quota System, there is sentiment for the repeal of the Asia-Pacific Triangle special discrimination against those of Oriental ancestry.

When the House Judiciary Committee favorably reports the revised bill, President Johnson will be hailed as a "breakthrough" for his year, however, is problematical, especially if adjournment takes place in mid-September.

The full and complete elimination of national origins automatically repeals the Asia-Pacific Triangle special discrimination, which is a special discrimination directed against Orientals on top of the general discrimination of the National Origins Quota System.

The Committee Report explains, "In place of the old quota system, the bill establishes a new system of selection designed to be fair, rational and based on the national interest. Under this system, selection from among those eligible for immigration will be based on the existence of a citizen or permanent resident alien, and not on the existing basis of birthplace or ancestry. Reunification of families is emphasized as the foremost consideration. The closer the family relation the higher the preference. In order that the family unit may be preserved as much as possible, parents of adult U.S. citizens as well as spouse and children may enter the United States without numerical limitation. The unmarried sons and daughters of U.S. citizens are considered to be part of the immediate family unit and thus are given first preference status. As the family relationship becomes more distant, a lower preference status is accorded."

"Preference is also provided for those professional people, with personal qualifications, whose services are urgently needed in the United States. Aliens capable of filling labor needs are given a lower preference."

"The principle of selection with the preference categories is not unlike the present preference system; however, the bill has a revised order of preference to first reunite families and next to admit those alien, without family ties in the United States, who will contribute to the national economy, welfare, and cultural interests of the United States."

"The new selection system, in summary, is based upon, first, come first served, without regard to place of birth, within the preference categories and subject to specified limitations designed to prevent an unreasonable allocation of numbers to any one foreign state."

There has been no relaxing of the qualitative criteria for admissibility to the United States and that no relaxation of the mental, health, moral, economic, and security criteria is proposed. The bill is not a comprehensive overhaul of the immigration laws.

The official report also notes, "In 1952 the Immigration and Nationality Act eliminated race as a bar to naturalization and thereby to immigration... The only vestige of discriminatory provision requiring that an Asian person be charged to the quota of his ancestry, even though born outside of the Asian area, is repealed immediately by this legislation, and the last vestige of discriminatory action against Asian persons is removed from the immigration laws."

The above paragraph refers to the Asia-Pacific Triangle, which would be eliminated with the abolishment of the National Origins System for determining quota immigration allocations.

In order that the various Congressmen may be aware of our sentiments regarding this legislation, may we suggest that—right now—all interested and concerned individuals write their respective Congressmen, urging a vote for House Administration Immigration Bill, H.R. 2580, as amended. Letters are most important, even if a Congressman is on the political record as endorsing this legislation, for we understand that those

(Continued on Page 4)

Family customs in Japan falling apart

HONOLULU — The overcrowded housing situation in Tokyo is doing its share to break down the family tradition in Japan, a leading Japanese Salvation Army official said here this past week.

The old pattern of the eldest son taking care of his parents is being ground. Chiyoko Mochimaru said.

"There are so many people in Tokyo that everybody, even rich people, must live in apartments. And the rent is very expensive. Nowadays people can't afford to have their own houses."

"Married men with children who live in apartments often have no room for their parents and can't afford larger quarters, because of the high rent."

"That, combined with in-law trouble, forces the parents out of the home. Japan numbers well over 80,000 active members. Among its activities the Army operates tuberculosis sanitariums, general hospitals, children's homes and day nurseries."

Capt. Mochimaru is visiting Hawaii after a five-month trip around the world. She recently attended the International College for Officers and the International Congress, both in London.

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HUMAN DIGNITY: OUR CHALLENGE

Look at Our Heritage

By Todd Ends

Reaction in Los Angeles to the current talk of "heritage" is missing the point. We are not talking about our heritage, but rather, we are talking about the heritage of our Japanese heritage. We are not talking about our heritage, but rather, we are talking about the heritage of our Japanese heritage. We are not talking about our heritage, but rather, we are talking about the heritage of our Japanese heritage.

Revolution, social sciences, reform, the American dream, the integration of the American reality, equality, opportunity and peace are equally a part of the American heritage. The story of America is the story of freedom, the westward movement, the Christian legacy of racism and supremacy, the rapid rise to power and the efforts to meet the responsibilities of power, and perhaps above all, the intermingling of diverse peoples to form one nation. This last experience of slavery, segregation, and immigration are of particular interest to the Japanese. The Sunni should be encouraged to identify with the present of America rather than his forefathers off as different and unique.

Small Awareness: We are, after all, for better or for worse, Americans. We can never again be Japanese. The immigrant dream of transporting the old culture into a new setting is no longer a dream. It is a fact, and it is a fact that we are now.

acial harmony of Hawaiian Islands presses ex-resident away for 14 years

Wailuku, Hawaii (AP)—Sam Tamahiro is a former resident and photographer who came back to his island recently for a visit, long away for 14 years, he is impressed with what he has seen and what he has heard.

Weather Harmony: "It is the fact of Hawaii that we are an American country with the spirit of racial harmony," said the 26th State delegate to the 1965 National Japanese Conference in Honolulu.

Traffic safety talk for aged Iseii given

Honolulu (AP)—The Honolulu Traffic Department is now able to give traffic safety lectures and demonstrations to senior citizens in their own homes.

Gila WRA grads reunion

Los Angeles (AP)—The 1965 class of Gila River War Relocation Authority graduates is planning a reunion in Los Angeles.

1965 CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP PERFORMANCES

Percentage	0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110
PACIFIC NORTHWEST												
Alaska												
British Columbia												
Idaho												
Montana												
Washington												
Wyoming												
PACIFIC SOUTHWEST												
Arizona												
California												
Colorado												
Illinois												
Indiana												
Michigan												
Minnesota												
Nebraska												
North Dakota												
South Dakota												
Texas												
Utah												
Virginia												
Washington												
West Virginia												
Wisconsin												
Wyoming												

DEATHS

Los Angeles (AP)—The following are the names of those who died in Los Angeles during the week ending August 14, 1965.

History Project

Continued from Page 3

Dependable at Canyons

The canyons through the mountains of the Sierra Nevada are the most dependable water source in the state.

Los Angeles (AP)—The following are the names of those who died in Los Angeles during the week ending August 14, 1965.

Foreign Words Color Japanese Language

Los Angeles (AP)—The following are the names of those who died in Los Angeles during the week ending August 14, 1965.

Japanese origin in South Pacific sought

Los Angeles (AP)—The following are the names of those who died in Los Angeles during the week ending August 14, 1965.

Shimatsu, Ogata and Kubota Mortuary

FUKUI Mortuary

Nor'Wester Boat Co.

JACL was 'not pleased' with Asia-Pacific Triangle in 1952 law

WASHINGTON—Testimony asserting that the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) was "not pleased" with the Asia-Pacific Triangle provision of the Immigration and Naturalization Act of 1952, was given today by a representative of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL).

Time now to change immigration quotas or it will take another 10 years...

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