

PACIFIC CITIZEN
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6 Friday, Oct. 22, 1971

LETTERS FROM OUR READERS

Letters to the Editor are subject to condensation. Each must be signed and addressed, though withheld from print upon request.

Repeal Title II
Dear Harry:
There must be scores like me who received letters of appreciation from Ray Okamura and Edison Uno after the successful conclusion to Repeal of Title II.
Receiving the letter somehow didn't mesh. Properly the thanks should be in reverse. It was the guidance and leadership of Ray and Edison that provided much of the push and motivation for at least this one.
For non-paid volunteers, their out, particularly Ray's, was nothing short of fantastic. Hardly a week passed but what some form of correspondence was not received. Their style can well serve as a model for similar projects.
Thanks, Ray and Edison.
BILL DOI
4437-30th Ave. South
Minneapolis 55406

Editor:
Early this year a Nisei with a diffident manner, invited me to join the Bay Area Community JACL. It was an honor, unexpected but an invitation I gladly accepted. The diffident Nisei was Ray Okamura, chapter chairman.
I was aware that he was an individual of exceptional principle but the measure of his concern as an American citizen gradually unfolded itself in the course of attending the meetings and with Edison Uno, the work and effort which went into their campaign to make the repeal of Title II an issue which the National JACL would back.
Consequently, I am surprised and not a little disappointed that in all the deserved lauding of the role of Senator Inouye and Representative Spark Matsunaga's role in pushing through the legislation which now is law and a magnificent precedent in the annals of human justice, that the Pacific Citizen did not carry Hokubei Mainichi's tribute to Ray Okamura.
Ray's labors are as important to the twentieth century United States as the letters of the Committee of Correspondence were in the colonial days of the thirteen colonies. He created a climate of possibility—that most intangible, but palpable atmosphere which catches the convictions of individuals and welds them into a group capable of sustained and appropriate action towards a common goal of human good. That you have not mentioned this act of greater consciousness, in all its many aspects, is an oversight I trust you soon will correct.

RENEE RENOUF
1122 Broderick St.
San Francisco 94115

Editor:
The last several issues of PC have been devoted to our personal vindication in the hearts of all Japanese Americans: repeal of Title II.
One man and only one man can be bestowed the highest honor for the inception, for the impossible task (as I saw it at that time) and for the devout determination to destroy an evil amendment.
In all the articles written by Ray Uno, Mike M., Jerry E. Harry, and only the slightest passing recognition was conveyed to the person responsible, and who can be considered to be the most influential force in the JACL—Ray Okamura.
All the articles centered around the three-ring circus (House, Senate, Executive) in Washington, D.C. where our representatives eventually brought forth our demands.
The Ad Hoc Committee, the organization, the optimism, and the heart breaks were here in the dingy churches of Nihonmachi, hospitable homes (Takagis, etc.), with young Nisei co-chairmen Ray Okamura and Edison Uno, determined JACLers, and the concerted efforts of the Saneisi. Here was the battlefield; here were the tired eyes, clattering of typewriters, and the final strategy. Make no mistake. All the congressmen who eventually supported repeal were our final representation there in the Capitol.
The JACL and PC owe Ray full recognition, and must be written as such in any future articles. It's this generation of Nisei, with their unselfish grinding dedication for all of us that have united the Saneisi and Nisei for relevancy in the JACL.
Ray, with his enchanting wife, Taeko, deserves the highest congratulations that can be given to a JACL member like scholastic fund in honor of Repeal of Title II in the names of Ray Okamura and Edison Uno.

Unity is the avenue for success in our struggle.
PHIL IHARA
747 22nd Ave.
San Francisco 94121

(Following letter was addressed to the Hokubei Mainichi, San Francisco, in its Sept. 18 issue to which two letters to the editor appeared. In this week's PC have made references. The leadership of Raymond Okamura, chairman of the National JACL, ad hoc committee to repeal the Emergency Detention Act, in moving the National Council to push this campaign at the outset has been unquestionably singular. It is our understanding that recognition of his role will be forthcoming.—Ed.)

San Francisco
The Congress of the United States has passed legislation to repeal Title II of the Internal Security Act of 1950, the authority which could revive concentration camps in America. President Nixon is expected to sign into law the repeal bill sponsored by Senator Daniel K. Inouye and Representative Spark Matsunaga.
The successful passage of the repeal legislation culminates four years of hard work by the Japanese American Citizens League's Committee to Repeal Detention Camp Legislation.

Ray Okamura of Berkeley and Edison Uno of San Francisco are co-chairmen of the JACL's national committee.
(Paul Yamamoto of Oakland was co-chairman until he resigned. Uno was named to succeed him.—Ed.)
The climax of the repeal effort results from the combined cooperation of a national network of individuals, organizations, and JACL chapters who believed in the necessity of removing from the statute books the powers of the government to establish detention camps, similar to those that were built and used to incarcerate 110,000 persons of Japanese ancestry during

World War II.
Last December, the first attempt to repeal Title II ended in failure when the House bill died in committee. Opponents of the measure attempted to subvert total repeal by adding amendments. House Internal Security Committee

Chairman Richard Ichord was the strongest foe of repeal bills.
Capitol Hill Strategy
The JACL Washington's Legislative Representative Mike Masooka and his assistant, David Ushio, coordinated

consists of "downers".
Drug abuse in the United States is defined in relation to the visible problem. Media define drugs like hallucinogens, amphetamines, heroin and marijuana as the drug abuse problem. Controlling legislation at a Federal level places the emphasis on addressing the problem of drug abuse as it is visible to the larger community.

"Ghetto drugs" as long as they remain in the ghetto, and so not affect the white middle class, are not visible and, therefore, receive little attention.
A situation that demonstrates this pattern is that of marijuana. Marijuana was in use in minority communities for a number of years. The attention given to it came only after the drug came into usage by larger sectors of the larger community.
When widespread usage of the drug became wholly apparent the drug became more culturally acceptable, and less

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'TITLE II' CAMPAIGN
Hard-Hitting One-Man Drive

(Following is the text of an unsigned commentary published by the Hokubei Mainichi, San Francisco, in its Sept. 18 issue to which two letters to the editor appeared. In this week's PC have made references. The leadership of Raymond Okamura, chairman of the National JACL, ad hoc committee to repeal the Emergency Detention Act, in moving the National Council to push this campaign at the outset has been unquestionably singular. It is our understanding that recognition of his role will be forthcoming.—Ed.)

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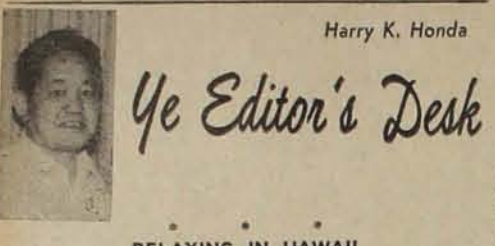
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Harry K. Honda

Ye Editor's Desk

RELAXING IN HAWAII

The two-day stay in Hawaii to regain my "clock" after spending a week in Japan offered a chance to catch-up on sleep in Maui (within the half-day of sightseeing my friend said I had seen nearly two-thirds of what there was to see), regret my bathing trunks weren't included, and revisit with our two PC correspondents on the Isles—Allan Beekman and Richard Gima.

On Maui, remnants of the summer obon festival were still visible in the old cemeteries adjoining the Buddhist temples. I can believe what Jeffrey Matsui (who grew up on Maui) said about spotting the native from the tourist. The latter stretches out on the beautiful beaches in search of a tan, the former takes refuge in whatever shade (mostly under trees hugging the shoreline) in search of comfort—and what crystal clear blue waters, the color of which was soothing enough to rinse our smog-ridden eyes.

At Lahaina, booming as a tourist mecca, I dropped into the Yamamoto Store for a bottle of Coke and the newsstand still had some copies of the week-old Sunday paper carrying a color photo on the front page of President Nixon and Emperor Hirohito meeting in Anchorage, which struck me odd at first glance. But tourists are liable to buy anything quaint, I thought.

A Hawaiian-style supper with the Beekmans at their new apartment near Tripler Hospital with a view overlooking Honolulu International Airport was a special delight—not so much for the panoramic view but for the opportunity to talk about Hawaii, the books he has been reviewing for the PC and the first book he has published, "Hawaiian Tales" (\$3.95). Six of the eleven stories have been published in previous PC Holiday Issues. We have some copies at our office for sale. The narratives attempt to capture the life in the Islands during the past 50 years in fiction form.

Gima, who had cut all his lifelong ties in Honolulu by moving to Montebello two years ago, is back renewing his contacts in the community with his Sunday radio show on KZOO, an all-Japanese station (with a couple hours in the early morning devoted to the Filipinos), and a column in the Hawaii Hochi. As in the past he continues to report items of interest as gleaned from the Pacific Citizen on his radio program and he continues to plug the JACL. At one time he worked for the Star Bulletin as a reporter by night and taught English at school by day. Now it's just teaching plus his Sunday show, his contributions to the PC and the Hochi.

We had intended to catch his show on the radio, but it turned out to be a leisurely chat over the air with him and the program director Harumi Oshita, who played the commercials, Japanese music and station calls. We plugged the courtesy flight to Japan via Northwest Orient, the stay at Keio-Plaza, talked about JACL in general, and mentioned possibilities of starting a chapter in Hawaii.

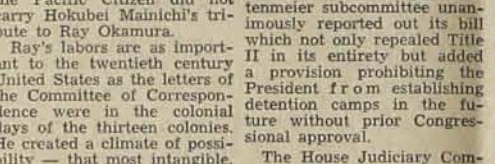
JACLers, who might be passing through Honolulu, staying over Sunday, might give Richard a call at the station around 9 p.m. (his show goes on from 9:30 till midnight) and chat with him over the air—it'll be the fastest 2 1/2 hours ever spent over a cup of tea and a live "mike".

Oshita has his own afternoon talk show during the week and since we gave him a copy of Bill Hosokawa's book, "Nisei: Kono Otonashii Amerikajin" (\$10), in Japanese (we picked up some specimen copies from Jiji Press during our stay in Tokyo), we suspect he's been discussing that book over the air. . . . Jiji Press is now boxing a shipment of 1,000 books for delivery to the PC office. When these arrive, a nation-wide campaign on the sale will begin—hopefully in time for Christmas giving. Reservations for orders are being accepted.

Cost-of-living is admittedly high in Honolulu—and the breakfast we had in the hotel restaurant was a good example. Half papaya, waffles, sausages and coffee came to \$2.10 . . . it can be compared with the \$5.50 breakfast at the Keio Plaza 24-hour coffee shop of fruit, two eggs, bacon, toast and coffee. I felt we got more when ordering eggs scrambled as the cook served it over toast . . . but the all-you-can-eat \$6.00 breakfast at the Dai-ichi hotel downtown was our best buy, with access to both western and Japanese style buffet breakfasts. We included some misoshiru, tsukemono and cold chicken with our ham and eggs that one morning. It was really a brunch—a term that might be more appropriate for the spread at the Dai-ichi . . . so you can understand now why my eye caught a wire story about a restaurant in New York reducing the price on a cup of coffee to a nickel. It's a trend in the right direction.

We had bought three golden nashi (Japanese pears that are shaped like apples) upon our arrival at Nagasaki. We settled for two of them and a glass of water for breakfast before venturing on the morning tour, knowing it would conclude with a hearty Chinese luncheon. Our guide said he survived the atom bomb blast by drinking beer for three days—it took him that long to walk out of the devastation—suspicious of the water that had become deadly by radiation unbeknownst to him. He offered a drink to an injured person and saw him pass away. In a couple of more years, this generation of tour guides who had experienced the atomic bomb blast will have all retired—so our trip to Nagasaki at this time was timely.
Yet the tour really emphasizes the western contacts in Nagasaki when it was the only port open to trade during the Tokugawa era and the major port of entry in the early Meiji period, after Japan dropped its isolation policy. This was one tour where historic Japanese Catholic churches rather than Shinto shrines or Buddhist temples were visited or pointed out. I doubt there's a comparable tour like that elsewhere in Japan. . . . Now that we've caught up with two weeks mail, papers and correspondence, we're ready to whack at that Holiday Issue chore before us.

Checkmate Ron Wakabayashi



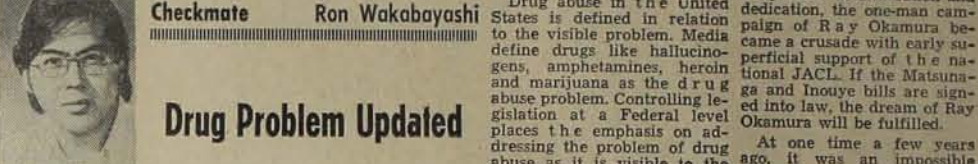
Drug Problem Updated
The tragedy of drug abuse occurs in innumerable ways. It is a phenomenon that is difficult to observe, cumbersome to describe and awesome to some to attack.
In 1969-70 in Los Angeles County, there were 41,201 drug arrests. Forty percent of the felony docket of the Superior Courts are drug related offenses. Clearly, there is a drug problem.
However, the drug problem in the Asian American community, and specifically Japanese American, is less clear. Yet, we all generally acknowledge that a drug problem exists in our community.
There was a time, not long ago, when the same Japanese community was proclaiming that there was no drug problem. The larger community agreed.
Even as late as 1970, when Japanese American Community Services approached the Urban Crises Committee of United Way, Inc., for support in addressing the problem, again the community was told that it had no problem.

AAHC/YB Organized
In 1969 some significant events occurred. Asian American Hard Core and the Yellow Brotherhood came into existence. The myth that the Japanese American community did not have drug problems came to an abrupt end.
Asian American Hard Core and Yellow Brotherhood were the problem. They pointed the finger at themselves; they were the problem. The Japanese American community became suddenly aware that there was a drug problem.
Yellow Brotherhood, Asian American Hard Core, Go For Broke, Come Together, League of Asian Involvement and Asian Sisters are all names of self-help groups that attempted to address the problem. Perhaps half of these continue to exist today. These self-help groups were the perpetuation of another sort of myth in the community. In many ways, the community looked to these groups for a solution to the problem of drug abuse.

In seeking a solution, an analysis of the problem is essential. In terms of drug abuse, the problem has a traditionally been described in statistical terms.
In terms of the Japanese American community these statistics were lacking for a number of reasons. Earlier both the ethnic and larger community functioned under the assumption that there was no effort made to quantify data, and the problem remained confined to the intimacy of the family and close friends.
This lack of data on the Asian American community has recently led to a Demonstration Project funded by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, to secure some initial data on the community.
31 Asian Deaths
There is now, some initial implications on the scope of the problem. From the Asian Involvement office of Japanese American Community Services, whose operation began in early 1970, data compilations recorded 31 drug overdose deaths in the Japanese American community in 1970.
In the city of Gardena, its Youth Services Division recorded 167 cases of drug overdose among Asian Americans for the year 1970.

Ravages Community
It is significant that "ghetto drugs" are destroying the young people of the Japanese community. Economically, the community could afford other things. The same drugs that plague other Third World communities in this country afflict the more affluent Japanese community. Drug abuse in the Japanese American community predominantly

On Second Thought
Warren Furutani



Monthly Report
August was very short because of my vacation and because of my preparations for my national travels. Hence, this is a two-month report, which will deal with my travels more than anything else.
Purpose of the trip was for information and public relations for Community Involvement Program (CIP). My main concern was to meet with JACLers on the district and chapter level and talk with them on the feasibility of a National CIP.
My overall conclusion is that a National CIP objective would be very difficult because of the diversity of districts and the lack of man & woman power. Each district and chapter needs programming, but each area would be different because of different needs. The way I see CIP relating to National is in the resource capacity. Obviously, in areas where a field director works, the membership should be getting some sort of direct or indirect servicing.

In relationship to service, I think JACLers should understand that a minimal portion of the membership will get direct service. This is because our work will be directed toward the more unfortunate in the community. Indirectly, I think JACLers can feel that they are contributing something to the community and I hope many more will see that CIP is a vehicle of involvement.
In trying to assess the progress of our program, it is difficult. All I can say is come end of the year, CIP will have some concrete results to share with the JACL membership. I hope these results can then be used as rationale for asking for more funding and support from National. The additional funds can be used not only for more staff but for program money.
As of now, with paid staff you can do many things. But most of our efforts are tied up in trying to hustle resources (i.e., money, facilities, etc.) to initiate program. Without program resources, our main activity is supportive in nature. For example, we must work in the framework of already existing programs or abide by the procedures or structure of outside funding institutions like the church, school, state or federal government.
This means that some of the results of the CIP activities will be submerged in the efforts of other involved organizations or individuals. I am not saying this is bad, but JACLers should recognize that in many cases CIP efforts will not be seen on the surface; although they play an important part in the background.

On the National scene, the organization shows signs of growth; not in size necessarily but in attitude. For example, the Eastern District now has a woman governor in Mrs. Grayce Ueyehara and the Midwest has a district board headed by Ross Harano and with everyone under the age of 35. And the youth section of JACL is producing some very able and sensitive leaders in all the districts.
Things look pretty good, but this is only the beginning.

25 Years Ago
In the Pacific Citizen, Oct. 26, 1946

ACLU brief filed in alien fishing test, claim 1945 ban on Japanese fishermen unconstitutional. . . . ACLU files for restoration of rights renounced by Nisei (Tom Ariza) at Tule Lake during wartime; case expected to affect 4,000 other evacuees. . . . So, Calif. Civil Rights Defense Union, formed in early 1946 to protect civil rights of persons of Japanese ancestry, dissolves; JACL to assume role. (CRDU was formed at a time when there were no JACL chapters in the area).
Furu agrees to take back 24 of 400 Japanese arrested and taken to U.S. for internment during wartime. . . . Some 1,500 persons attend Fresno area dinner honoring 500 Nisei veterans and 25 Gold Star parents. . . . Imperial County

advised it is liable for relief of evacuees who were residents in county at time of evacuation until permanent residency established elsewhere.
Nisei amputee (leg lost during combat in Europe) receives car under new congressional act. . . . Deportation of Iseki set for hearing in Sait Lake City court.
Nisei in California get first taste of large-scale political action in campaign to defeat Prop. 13, measure to ratify legislative amendments to alien land law. Anti-restrictive covenant used by Los Angeles civil rights group to fight non-white housing restrictions; new document circulated on behalf of West Coast L.A. Nisei family (E. K. Yamato).