

Kats Kunitzugu

On Margin

REFLECTIONS ON THE END

Los Angeles

The long Vietnam nightmare is over. Saigon has surrendered—or has been liberated, depending on one's point of view.

I am of the World War II generation whose views on Vietnam made a 180-degree turn after the Chicago convention of '68. The unforgettable TV picture of young people—the kind of young people who lived next door—who were being beaten with police sticks and hustled into police vans for expressing their opposition to the war, is an image that I will never forget.

It was not too many years before that I stood at the doorstep of our pleasant suburban home and argued hawkishly with a friend—Larry Park—whose dove-ish views and actions, he said, was bringing him increasing harassment at work. On that sunny day, I remember arguing for about an hour with Larry because I felt strongly about supporting the Vietnamese who were opposed to communism.

But, as Mary McGrory, Washington Star writer pointed out in her article reprinted in the Los Angeles Times May 1, "Kissinger won the Nobel Peace Prize. It should have gone to the kids."

It was the young men who burned draft cards, the nice coeds in college who spurned sorority socializing in favor of "sitting in, stopping traffic, yelling at a President, 'Hey, hey, LBJ! How many kids did you kill today?'" who eventually convinced enough of us about the motives of Saigon's leaders, about the determination of the North Vietnamese to achieve a unified nation cast asunder by white powers, about the futility of war in general, who turned the tide for peace.

And now the refugees are arriving from Vietnam. The first contingent, commented a TV reporter, appeared well dressed, even affluent.

I imagine these are the kind of people who will always land on their four feet, like cats, who always seem to manage with single-minded regard for self and little regard for considerations like pride or honor, to find the most cushiony berth in any situation.

I am reminded of Evacuation days, when some of the early volunteers going into the concentration camps managed to bring in furniture and other household goods which were denied to those of us who didn't know any better and who were later herded into the camps with only those clothing and other necessities we could carry in with our own two hands.

They were the ones who became chummy with camp administrators and latched quickly onto the cushiest jobs. They were the ones who managed to get assigned pullman berths on the long train journey from the assembly centers to the relocation centers, which were supposed to be only for the sick and aged. They were among the first to relocate out of camp, some even managing to evade the draft by changing addresses frequently.

I was amused by another article in the same Times about the judge clamping down on a \$3.75 million fund to promote sex equality among Bank of America employees which was being spent for what amounted to free vacations for women employees clever enough to apply for a grant from the fund.

Honor, it seems, will never be in fashion, but without it, life would be a desert.

PC's People

Business



Ted Sato

Immediate past president Ted Sato of the Fremont JACL was promoted asst. mgr. of the Sumitomo Bank of Calif. Fremont branch. A native of Hayward who graduated from San Jose State, he joined the bank as a management trainee in 1964. He is also president-elect of the Southern Alameda County Buddhist Church. Married to the former Terri Kato, they have two children.

Yoshiaki Sato has been named vice president and manager of the Bank of Tokyo of California's Guam branch, according to Masao Tsuyama, president of the San Francisco-based bank. Sato spent 14 years with BOT offices in San Jose and San Francisco. The Guam full-service branch, opened in a temporary office last year, will be moving shortly to spacious permanent quarters in Agaña.

Government

Recently-elected Long Beach Councilwoman Eunice N. Sato was appointed chairwoman of the council's civil service committee. She is also a member of the council's affirmative action; charter amendment; harbor, industries and oil committees; and a member of the Bureau of Franchises.

Radio-TV

Sharon Maeda was appointed director of community involvement for KCTS (9), the educational TV station on the Univ. of Washington campus. She was previously director of the UW Ethnic Cultural Center and is a Seattle JACL board member. She is also a doctoral candidate in higher education administration and curriculum development.

Milestones

Ruth F. Ushijima, 61, of Chicago died of heart failure April 25 in Meggen, Switzerland, where her daughter Patricia lives. Wife of Chicago film producer Henry Ushijima, she is also survived by Michael, Jr. Minji, Togo, Koto and sis Ayako Moehle.

Fine Arts

Art director James Tanaka of Walt Disney Studios, New York, held a one-man show of his watercolor at the Heaton Gallery in West Nyack, N.Y. in late April. A prewar Los Angeles Nisei who attended Chouinard Art Institute, he later studied at Pratt Institute and Art Students League in New York. His paintings are in the permanent collection of Revlon, McGraw-Hill and the Univ. of Michigan art museum.

The Japanese Artists Assn., P. O. Box 195, New York 10014, was founded in 1972 to assist its members and other Japanese artists living and working here as well as improve U.S.-Japan cultural relations. Shozo Nagano, 1975 president, hails from Kanazawa and had a successful career in Tokyo before coming to the U.S. in 1965.

Curator Yoshiko Kakudo of Japanese art at the San Francisco Asian Art Museum, Golden Gate Park, trained two Nisei docents, John Enomoto and Amy Doi to explain the different Japanese schools.

Nixon 'shokku'

July 16, 1971, without consulting Japan, Nixon announced he had accepted an invitation to visit Communist China. Giving the Japanese little time to absorb this "Nixon shokku" to their political sensibilities, the president, a month later, struck at the livelihood of the Japanese as he announced his "New Economic Policy", which included a 10 per cent surcharge on imports.

The Japanese had been trying to resolve the knotty economic issues between Japan and America. In July, the Japanese Textile Federation had begun a three-year program of voluntary controls on textile shipments to the United States; the Japanese government had promised to liberalize import provisions. The Nixon announcement demoralized foreign-exchange transactions and depressed the Tokyo stock market.

Perhaps the reader may feel the greater sympathy for Meyer amid difficulties with the Administration because the chronicle is sprinkled with names of national figures since fallen into disrepute: Richard Nixon, Spiro Agnew, Maurice Stans, John Ehrlichman, Ron Ziegler.

The book is poorly organized instead of assembling, analyzing and interpreting events, the author often engages in wearisome chronological recounting of them. The writing is undistinguished, sometimes inept.

and styles as reflected in screen paintings that were on display through April. (Cars are not allowed inside the park on Sundays.)

Architect

Howard Horii, v.p. of New Jersey Society of Architects, discussed the future of cities Mar. 11 at the Newark Museum.

O'Leary, Terasawa & Takahashi, AIA of Beverly Hills were architects of the new \$4-million research center for Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc. in Torrance. Otmansky Construction Co. of Monterey Park, which built Toyota's national headquarters in Torrance nearly a decade ago, was again the builder.

Music

UC Santa Barbara music instructor Yukiko Kamel is guest artist at the Long Beach Symphony concert recently, playing Brahms' Violin Concerto. The Tokyo-born violinist came to the U.S. in 1967, studied under Jascha Heifetz at USC and performed in chamber programs with G-e-e-r Platiogorsky and Heifetz. She also returned to Tokyo in 1972 to debut with the Japan Philharmonic. Seldcm seen opera "The Pearl Fishers" by Bizet, was revived by the San Francisco Spring Opera Theater in early April with Sung-Sook Lee starring in the soprano role. "She brought uncommon grace and finesse to the plattitudes of Lella," commented L.A. Times critic Martin Bernheimer.

Organizations

Pasadena JACLER Harvard Yuki was elected president of the Crown City Optimist Club. He assumes office Oct. 1. He was Optimist of the Year for 1972-73 and awarded the distinguished secretary medallion for three years. Among the 10 new candidates initiated into the Mescs Lake (Wash.) Elks Lodge recently were three Nisei: Fred Toyai, Paul Hirai and Alan Hirai. Till 1973, the organization was a "white only" fraternity.

Health

James Chin, MD, heads the Calif. Dept. of Hawaii's infectious disease section at Sacramento. In a warning issued Mar. 25, he cautioned parents in Monterey, San Francisco, San Mateo and Santa Cruz counties to immunize their children against measles. The Alcoholism Council of Greater Los Angeles has elected Dr. J. Kichiro Takamine, past president of the L.A. County Medical Assn., as its president. Included on the board of directors of civic leaders and public luminaries is Mrs. Ruth Kdani, United Way Board.

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TACK YONEMOTO: San Jose JACLER

Grower heads Carnation Society

SANTA CLARA, Calif.—Tack Yonemoto, who with his wife Reie owns and operates Tack's Greenhouses here has been named national president of the American Carnation Society.

Succeeding Kent Davis of

Colorado in the two-year position, the floraculturist was installed at a banquet May 5, during the society's 81st four-day convention in Denver.

One day was set aside for a tour of Colorado State University and the impressive Kitayama Bros. greenhouses at Brighton.

Though the organization is made up primarily of American carnation growers, it also has associate members from South America and Japan.

Gene Yoshihara of Lafayette, Colo., was elected second vice-president.

Yonemoto, whose greenhouses cover 250,000 square feet in Santa Clara and another 150,000 square feet in Solinas, is a graduate of the UC-Berkeley.

Local Scene

Los Angeles

Sumitomo Bank of California broke ground April 25 for a new office at Olympic Blvd. and Corinth, West Los Angeles. It will be the bank's 22nd statewide branch and its 12th in the metropolitan L.A. area.

The So. Calif. Society of the Japanese Blind, at its April 5 meeting, heard one blind member was rudely treated when he entered a local Japanese cafe with his guide dog. The group meets every other month on the first Saturday at the Pioneer Center, 125 Weller St., from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

San Jose

Asian American artists at San Jose State are having their first off-campus show at Triton Museum, Santa Clara, during the month of May. Dr. Nancy Wey, who teaches Oriental art history, is sponsor of the group, Eastern Streams. Cultural programs are also scheduled on Sunday afternoons augmenting the exhibit.

San Francisco

World Conference on Religion and Peace, which first met in Kyoto in 1970, may have a California division as a steering committee met Apr. 3 at the Buddhist Churches of America headquarters here. A total of 25 religious and lay leaders of organizations subscribing to WCRP unanimously agreed on the need for a statewide division. Bishop Kenryo Tsuru, Rev. Hogen Fujimoto and Rev. Toshio Murakami attended.

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