

JACL to develop TV series on Japanese Americans

SAN FRANCISCO — The Japanese American Citizens League, a national human and civil rights, educational organization representing Americans of Japanese ancestry, was awarded a grant of \$35,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities, a federal agency which supports projects that involve collaboration between humanist scholars and television producers.

JACL plans to develop a script for the first program of a five-part series of visual essays on the Japanese American experience. The programs will be documentary in approach and mark JACL's first major effort to produce an accurate account of Japanese American history for TV.

The programs will focus upon the Japanese American people and their interactions with the larger American society from 1880 to the present, and will be placed against the backdrop of political and economic relations between the United States and Japan.

Producers of the series will be Peter Takeuchi and Paul Turner, who have spent the past two years developing the project and researching materials on the Issei, Nisei and Sansei generations.

Executive Producer will be Lee Mendelson, well known for the "Peanuts" and "Charlie Brown" specials, and docu-

mentaries for ABC, CBS and NBC.

Academic consultants for the project are:

Roger Daniels, professor of history, Univ. of Cincinnati; and Harry H.L. Kitano, professor of sociology and social welfare, UCLA; special advisor for the pilot program—Yuji Ichioka, lecturer in Asian American Studies, UCLA.

All three individuals have

researched, written and published extensive materials on the Japanese in America. JACL National Executive Director Karl Nobuyuki stated, "It's time to tell our story from our unique perspective so that the American public, the people of Japan and our own children will know about the efforts of tens of thousands of Japa-

nese Americans who established a place for themselves and their families in America."

Administering the project will be John Dennis Hokoyama, National Associate Director. "We had to convince the people in Washington D.C., that this project was needed and that it was important that

Japanese Americans be in control," Hokoyama said. "I hope the project will open doors for other Asian American writers, directors and producers."

Takeuchi, discussing the programs, stated, "We are trying to present history through the lives of the people who experienced these events. We

want to make it human and personal, to blend the factual with the emotional."

Completion of the pilot program is scheduled for late next year, and production costs will approximate \$325,000. The producers envision that the program and eventual series will be broadcast both in the United States and Japan. #

Tom Shoyama quits atomic energy post in Canada

OTTAWA — Tom K. Shoyama, 63, chairman of Atomic Energy of Canada, Ltd., handed in his resignation in late September as the shakeup in the federal civil service continued, the New Canadian reported Sept. 28.

Shoyama was understood by friends to be upset with several Government decisions, including replacement of William Hood as deputy minister of finance by Grant Reuber. He refused to comment further on his resignation except that he first wants to improve his French and then look into business opportunities in western Canada.

Hood, who had succeeded Shoyama at the finance department, had worked with the Nisei government official for many years.

Shoyama had worn two hats in recent months. He was named chairman for Atomic Energy of Canada in April. He had been asked by the previous government to serve as a constitutional adviser on economic questions for six months and when that ended July 31, accepted a mandate for another six months.

Shoyama, a 1938 graduate in economics from the Univ. of British Columbia, served as president of the Japanese Canadian Citizens Assn., and was the first editor of The New Canadian, in 1939. During WW2, he served with the Canadian army intelligence.

While deputy minister of finance in 1974-1978 under Premier Trudeau, he looked after Canada's energy needs, mines and resources besides working with major economic and social programs and policies.

Those four years, however, were sucked into the quagmire called "stagflation"—a combination of puny economic growth, high unemployment and unending spiral in living costs. While finance ministers have been in high praise of the top Nisei civil servant here, one asked whether it was an appropriate time to honor Shoyama, when he retired in 1978.

Shoyama believes the federal government must maintain a high profile in the economic and social affairs of Canada. "It is essential in modern times to have a strong central authori-

ty," he was quoted a year ago by the Montreal Star. Shoyama has always been skeptical of businessmen who claim government intervention in the economy is ruining the country and sapping individual initiative.

Trudeau picked him in 1974 while he was a civil servant in the Saskatchewan provincial government at Regina involved with planning, economic research, housing and regional development.

In July, 1977, at the Japanese Canadian Centennial Youth Conference at Toronto, keynote speaker Shoyama differed with other Nisei who felt the Japanese Canadian (as well as Japanese American) with its distinct social and linguistic quality would fade away.

He pointed to the inner strength of the Japanese Canadian being able to survive the Evacuation and overcome—thanks to the handing down of traditions and values which are most possible in the discipline of closely-knit groups. Shoyama called the Nisei comeback as "a classic case of inner-directed people." He also feels the Sansei have this drive, judging from the writings he has seen by them. "Childhood shows the man as morning shows the day," Shoyama noted in quoting John Milton.

About Japanese Canadians fading away, Shoyama sees "all kinds of forces that are trying to draw us together—intellectual and emotional."

"Our heritage goes back beyond the 100 years in Canada—as important as that may be," Shoyama continued. Language, history, culture, artistic sensitivity and an interest in creative arts are all dynamic and they are "part of our heritage... we are no more likely to discard that or to be insulated from it than we are to stop eating rice. I always get a lift when I go to a (Nisei) meeting in Winnipeg, or go to the opening of the Historical Photo Exhibit in Ottawa, or to a community meeting, or association meeting or to a conference like this. I get an emotional, intellectual and romantic lift. And I think that is why I do not subscribe to the notion that we are likely to fade away." #



San Jose News Photo

TRI-VETTE TESTED—Rep. Norman Mineta test drives futuristic three-wheeled vehicle, Tri-Vette, designed by Robert Keyes of San Jose, attaining 68 miles per gallon. After the test, Mineta said he would suggest the Dept. of Energy officials take a look for possible funding to improve the vehicle.

Two more sponsor House bill 5499

WASHINGTON — Two more members of the House this past week became co-sponsors of HR 5499, the internment commission bill, the Washington JACL Office announced. They are:

Rep. Jim Santini (D-Nev.)
Rep. Alvin Baldus (D-Wis.)

There are now 130 co-sponsors in the House of Representative and 15 co-sponsors of the Senate bill 1647.

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1978 TOTALS			
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One-Line Greetings	807		
DISPLAY ADS			
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Carson	9	San Mateo	6
Chicago	84	Tulare Cty	2
East L.A.	210	West L.A.	168
Eden Twnshp	84	PSWDC	10
French Camp	9	Ad Dept	8
Fresno	210	PC Office	39
Mile-Hi	3 1/2		
Reedley	196	Nov 2	1,514 1/2
JACL/HI Project	2		

Preferred position for bulk rate chapters should be reported by Nov. 15. Final deadline for all copy, stories or advertising is Nov. 30 with one-week grace upon request.

Return urged for Little Tokyo 'Northside'

LOS ANGELES — A bold move has surfaced to regain what Little Tokyo surrendered within the past decade for sake of converting East First Street between San Pedro St. and Central Avenue into a major highway (100 ft. right-of-way).

At the Oct. 25 meeting of the Little Tokyo Community Development Advisory Committee, planning task force chairman Kango Kunitsugu introduced a plan to (1) remove the northside of First Street from the Civic Center Master Plan and allow the LTCDAC to in-

clude the area in its own redevelopment plans, and (2) have First Street designated as a secondary highway (86 ft. right-of-way).

Due to passage of Proposition 13 reducing availability of property tax funds and the current money crisis, the so-called Northside of E. 1st St. area remains in limbo. The area has been that way for the past decade as property owners, their tenants and businesses continue literally on a month-to-month basis, it was pointed out.

Informal talks have been ini-

tiated with the city planning department. The Northside area not only includes those shops and offices facing E. 1st Street but buildings along North San Pedro Street on the same block, the old Japanese Union Church, and land north to East Temple Street (or Market Street as Little Tokyo's northern boundary was once called) currently occupied by a parking facility.

The plan would also require approval of the City Council and the County Board of Supervisors, admittedly a tedious process, added Kunitsugu,

former Little Tokyo Redevelopment Project manager who feels the timing is right to pursue this effort.

It took intervention by the Community Redevelopment Agency in the mid-60s to stay the plans for widening E. 1st St. in order to give Little Tokyo time to build new facilities for displaced tenants and organizations.

In 1974, Akira Kawasaki headed an ad hoc Northside committee, pleading to save the Northside for small business tenants who fear they would not be able to afford the

higher rent in what is now the Japanese Village Plaza.

A five-story office/retail building will be constructed at the southeast corner of 2nd and San Pedro Sts. by the joint venture team of Joseph Ito, Yoneo Narumi and Albert Taira, Little Tokyo property owners. The CRA has approved the basic design by Shoji Shimizu, AIA, representing Adrian Wilson and Associates. Progress of the new development is tied to completion of the 100-unit rental housing now under construction just east of Little Tokyo Towers.

Three Star Sign owner Bob M. Honda will develop a two-building plaza on a half-block site on E. 2nd between Alameda and Central Ave. in the Little Tokyo Redevelopment Project area.

Caucasians still flunk dental exam in Hawaii

HONOLULU — After two Caucasians claimed in a 1976 federal law suit the state dental examiners were racially biased for passing twice as many Asians over haoles, the state agreed this year to adopt a blind grading procedure.

For the August exam, applicants did dental work on patients in one room. The examiners were in another room to review the work of patients. Examiners previously graded work as it was being performed by the applicant.

The August grades came out in mid-October, showing three-fourths of the Caucasians (23 of 31) flunked, while three-fourths of those of Asian ancestry (15 of 19) passed.

The August exam used California procedures to insure anonymity. "The results speak for themselves," noted attorney Edward Boyles, representing the State Dental Examiners. Attorneys for the Caucasian applicants and newcomers declined to comment but were expected to question whether the grading was actually anonymous.

● Hawaii

Kim Tae Wan, 29, wanted in Japan to face an attempted murder charge, slugged Assistant U.S. Attorney Stephen Tom, 30, on the jaw in a federal courtroom after the judge ruled Oct. 19 Kim would be extradited. Kim's attorney later suggested his client hit Tom thinking he would be permitted to stay in the U.S. longer to be prosecuted for the assault. Tom, while not seriously injured, said he didn't know whether he would press charges. Tom wondered why Kim didn't sock his attorney. He was closer!

Retired Judge Masato Doi has been named to head a 15-month federally funded study of state

Sansei stewardess killed in air crash

LONG BEACH, Ca. — The remains of Teresa Sugano Haley, 26, a Sansei stewardess who died Oct. 31 in the ill-fated crash of a Western Airlines DC-10 in Mexico City were brought home last week, according to her father, Steve Sugano of Long Beach.

The young stewardess, born in Chicago and raised in Long Beach graduated from Polytechnic High and L.B. State University, before joining United Air Lines and later WAL.

Teresa married Steve Haley, an officer with a major financial institute, only last April.

A total of 73 persons died in the fiery crash when the WAL pilot landed on the wrong airstrip.

judges' sentencing practices to establish standards to reduce existing disparities. The recommendations will be made to the 1981 state legislature.

The 100th Bn. 442nd Infantry, is hurting for men to fill its rank of the all-volunteer Army, says Col. Nathan Crow, Army Reserve spokesman. The outfit has only 60% of its authorized strength and based at Ft. DeRussy in Waikiki and in Hilo. Membership is no longer all-Nisei as in 1942 when the 100th was formed.

KHON-TV reporter Scott Shirai continued to refuse to identify sources of information he had used in a newscast on a Molokai shootout in May, 1977, during a deposition at the office of the attorney for Joseph Avilla, who charged he had been defamed. Circuit Judge Arthur S. K. Fong also ordered Shirai to reveal the sources.

Investors in a local money-making scheme were "defrauded" by Morisuke Taira, 72, retired auto mechanic, who filed for bankruptcy and says he has \$15.9 million in debts. There are 370 Japanese companies in Hawaii today. Related to these firms are an estimated 17,000 Japanese employees and their families. About 500 immigrate to Hawaii each year.

Tourism is a mainstay of American economy and mental health, Sen. Daniel Inouye declared before the Society of American Travel Writers meeting in Kaupulehu (Big Island). The American work ethic has placed those who work 12 hours a day on the pedestal. Such habits, Inouye said, contributes to Americans consuming more drugs and medicine per capita than people of any other nation. Leisure travel and recreation are means of



DOWN TO EARTH: Karl Nobuyuki

One Person Makes a Difference

annual meeting in Washington, D.C., during the week of the 21st. She suggested that it would seem an appropriate time to attempt to seek the endorsement of this body for the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians Act. She stated she had some preliminary discussions on the idea and that as a member of the Civil Rights Advisory Commission of Maryland, she would be willing to take the lead and push for endorsement.

EXECOM called for Nov. 10 meeting

SAN FRANCISCO — Dr. Clifford Uyeda is convening the National JACL Executive Committee Nov. 10, 4 p.m. at Headquarters to clarify the organization's case with respect to redress in view of the commission internment bills near-

Seiko asked for our thoughts on the idea, and we thought it was great. We mentioned to her that the Washington Office would be available to assist her in any way and that Min Yasui would also be in Washington, D.C., for that meeting, and that he would surely be willing to help out. Seiko remarked "Okay, then I'll go ahead with it." She bid a cordial farewell and left.

A few days later we learned that there was a movement

afoot to form an endorsement from the meeting of the SAC chairpersons for S 1647 and HR 5499. Seiko had begun the drive. Within 10 days, we heard that the august body of all 50 chairpersons had passed a firm resolution supporting the measure. It was a very sweet victory, and represents one of the most significant endorsements for the Commission bill.

Seiko was not a direct victim of the Evacuation and incarceration. She happens to be a native of the East Coast, and the only Nisei native of the District of Columbia I've met thus far. Her cooperative spirit and interest in helping with the Commission bill is one very clear example of how one person can make a difference. Seiko Wakabayashi, we thank you!

alleviating the strain of today's society, he added.

● Elections

Hannibal Tavares, 60, won a surprisingly big victory Oct. 20 in his race for mayor of Maui County. The Republican powered past second-place **Wayne Nishiki** (D) by better than 2-1. Councilman **Ron Kondo** (D) was a distant third. A huge 82% turnout (27,639 voters) had a field of 18 candidates to consider in the special election. The tally:

FOR MAYOR, MAUI COUNTY
Hannibal Tavares (R) 14,110
Wayne K Nishiki (D) 5,411
Ronald Y Kondo (D) 3,120
Abe Aiona (D) 2,135
Henry Takitani (D) 1,788

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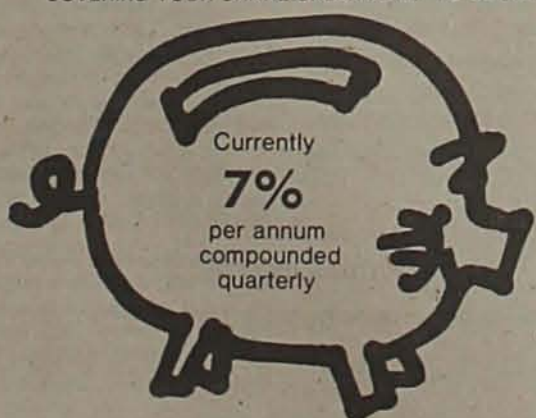
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Well-known for merging contemporary music with traditional Asian instruments are the "Hiroshima", who cut their first album on the Arista label. Members are (from left): lower—Danny Yamamoto, Jess Acuna, Teri Kusumoto, June Okida Kuramoto, Dan Kuramoto; upper—Richard "Arms" Mathews, Dane Matsumura, Johnny Mori and Peter Hata.

ASIAN AMERICAN MUSIC ON 'ARISTA' LABEL

'Hiroshima' sounds going nationwide

By CINDY OGAWA

LOS ANGELES—To take the first steps and pioneer a new field is an exciting and challenging task. *Hiroshima*, an original Asian American band, is taking hold of this task and turning it into culturally-blended rhythms and superb music.

Their debut album "Hiroshima" on Arista Records, was released on Oct. 31, and their music and message is being distributed nationwide to all major record outlets.

Hiroshima is a nine-piece band originating in the L.A. area. Their beginnings as a band started in the late '60s when they were coined a "movement" band, keeping in tune with the continuing search for cultural identity.

Over the years *Hiroshima* has evolved into a positive type of experience and valuable resource for the Asian American community, due to their own talents and skills as musicians, their fresh and uniquely blended music, and the support of the community for the band.

Leader Dan Kuramoto said that *Hiroshima* is about "being Asian American, and being multi-cultural, with a kind of cultural fusion that is our lifestyle and the essence of the music that we play."

The "cultural fusion" of *Hiroshima's* music is displayed in the merging of contemporary music with traditional Asian instruments. June Okida Kuramoto, who started the band with Dan, skillfully and delicately plays the koto, a Japanese stringed instru-

ment, while John Mori includes his talents on the taiko drum and other Asian percussion instruments. Peter Hata combines his skills on guitar with Dane Matsumura on bass and Richard "Arms" Mathews on keyboards. Danny Yamamoto pounds the beat on drums.

Dan molds the unique union of these instruments with flute, tenor sax, and vocals. The powerful and resounding vocal talents of Teri Kusumoto, and Jess Acuna who also plays various percussion instruments, complete *Hiroshima's* musical vehicle in combining their refreshingly new approach to the American music scene.

In fusing the influences of jazz, rock, salsa, and Asian sounds, Dan expresses the *Hiroshima's* music is a "reflection of our own lives and culture as Asian Americans," and wanting to "do it our own way and do it as honestly and directly as possible" as a mode of cultural expression.

Hiroshima is appreciative of the community support that has been given to them, and in exploring this field further with their new album, they intend to keep their responsibilities to the community, and to maintain "a sense of roots that is really important to us".

Hiroshima can be seen on the *Dinah Shore Show* on Nov. 27, and has been asked back to the show for a second appearance. They have also appeared on *Speakeasy*, and performed at the L.A. Street Scene on Oct. 13 with professional bands, Tower of Power and War.

Hiroshima is an upward

Sing-along reworks Moshi-moshi lyrics

Charles Kamayatsu, a founding member of Los Angeles JACL and now assisting Little Tokyo's hot lunch program, has come up with new words to "Moshi Moshi Kamemo" for the lunch program sing-along.

Moshi-moshi Oba-san, Oji-san yoh / Chu-shoku Kai ni yuki ma sho-oh / Soko-de oishi-i gochi-soh-woh / Yukkuri tabe-te kai-re ma-shoh.

'THE CHAUVINIST and Other Stories'

Second Toshio Mori book out

LOS ANGELES—Toshio Mori's "The Chauvinist and Other Stories" (UCLA Asian American Studies Center, \$4.50) has been published. It is his second book of short stories since the Nisei author published "Yokohama, California" in 1949.

The collection of 23 stories, some of which appeared in various Nikkei vernaculars, such as the Pacific Citizen, Amerasia Journal, Hokubei Mainichi and Current Life, chronicles the lives and struggles within the Japanese American community from the 1930s, life at Topaz through the war years to Hawaii in 1979.

Mori, 69, recently retired from his long hours tending his nurseries in San Leandro. He also kept a rigorous schedule of writing since his youth each evening after work. In the 1940-41 period, such magazines as The Clipper, Iconograph and Writers Forum had published his stories. Because of World War II, his first collection of short stories, "Yokohama, California," scheduled for 1942 publication, did not come out until 1949.

The best and brightest of Mori's several hundred remaining stories have been collected by UCLA Asian American Studies Center for the latest book. Hisaye Yamamoto, another distinguished Nisei writer, says in the introduction to "The Chauvinist":

"What moves me most about these stories is the people, especially those who exemplify

the bulldog tenacity of the human spirit."

"The Chauvinist and Other Stories" is available from:

Asian American Studies Center, 3232 Campbell Hall, University of California, Los Angeles 90024 (\$4 plus 50¢ handling charge and 6% tax for California residents until January 1980 when the price is \$4.50).

Toshio Mori's eloquent and moving style can be seen in the following passage, from the short story "1936":

"I do not remember precisely the beginning of our chat with this man, the custodian of the library halls. He was leaning against the wall puffing his cigarette rapidly, taking time out for a smoke when I entered the place and our conversation began. He was my size, a small man, quite bald, a man you would not believe had gone a foot out of California or Oakland even. He began talking, and the minute he opened his mouth I knew he was anxious to have someone to talk to. He began talking of his days at sea and I was surprised at the news, surprised that the custodian of a public library could ever think of such an adventure of life.

"I have been on the sea for twenty years," he said. "I have been to many ports of the world, Bombay, Liverpool, Marseilles, Yokohama, everywhere, coming in, going out, around the world. For twenty years I saw very little but the sea."

"Twenty years is a long time," I said. "You must love the sea very much."

"I did not love the sea," he said. "I was much more afraid to starve on land. I was afraid I could get no job of any kind, I was afraid of knowing nothing, and I was afraid of starving."

Chapter Pulse

reno

Election Meeting

Reno JACL will have its election meeting Nov. 9, 7:30 p.m., at the home of Michiko Spahr, 1979 president, 5695 Ambrose Dr.

Chapter is also anxious to have a local area high school senior participate in the Presidential Classroom for Young Americans. Wayne Makabe, who went last year, was enthusiastic about the program. Nov. 10 is the chapter deadline.

The Reno installation dinner Dec. 4 will feature Congressman Jim Santini as guest speaker, it was announced.

chapter pulse

san gabriel valley

Installation Set

San Gabriel Valley JACL installation of officers will take place this Saturday, Nov. 10, 7 p.m. at the East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center, West Covina, with John Saito, regional director, as main speaker.

As a family potluck supper with Mrs. Toshi Ito in charge, each family is being asked to bring a hot dish plus salad or dessert. Donations to the chap-

ter scholarship fund are also being solicited.

PSWDC Gov. Wiley Higuchi will be the installing officer. The 1980 chapter officers are:

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY JACL
William Young, pres; Benny Taguchi, vp; Laura Miyake, treas; Kathy Chong, sec; Kay Tokeshi, cor sec; Sayuri Buell, Kayoko Mayemura, Toshi Ito, Hide Kiyon, Franklin Chong, George Yanase, Ted Hamachi, Ed Tokeshi, Marvel Miyata, bd mem; Sam Imai, insur; Fumi Kiyon, memb; June Uejima, hist.

chapter pulse

san jose

1980 Officers

San Jose JACL elected Judy Ellwanger president for 1980 at the annual meeting held Oct. 20. She will be the first woman president in the chapter's post-war history.

Installation dinner will be held Nov. 16, 7:30 p.m. at Pinehurst Inn Restaurant, 1520 The Alameda, with ABC-TV news correspondent Ken Kashiwahara of San Francisco as

guest speaker. Tickets are available at the JACL Office (295-1250); at stores displaying the installation dinner poster, and from members. Deadline for reservation is Nov. 10.

SAN JOSE JACL

Judy Ellwanger, pres; Wayne Tada, vp (prog & activ); Ko Nishimura, vp (budget & fin); George Kobayashi, rec sec; Grant Shimizu, cor sec; Ron Uchishiba, treas; Jan Kurahara Jr. and Mike Hanamura, del; Board members (2 yr)—M Hanamura, Katie Hironaka, Mike Honda, Dr. Ken Kai, Dr. Dan Kanda, Karl Kinaga, Helen Mineta, Yosh Morimoto, K Nishimura, James Ono, Eiichi Sakai, G Shimizu, Dr. Tom Taketa (ex-officio), and Nori Yamasaki (holdover)—Dennis Akizuki, Perry Dobashi, J Ellwanger, Judy Kadotani, G Kobayashi, Al Kogura, J Kurahara, Aiko Nakahara, Lois Nakamura, Tad Sekigahama, Karen Shiraki, Gail Tagashira, W Tada, R Uchishiba, and Kats Watanabe.

Karl Nobuyuki, national executive director, spoke on "Operation '80s" at the election meeting. Members were

Continued on Page 6

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Pacific Citizen Board Chairperson

Harry K. Honda, Editor

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER: Clifford Uyeda

Planning

At the last Executive Committee session, Sept. 7-9, we discussed a creation of a planning commission to map the future course of the organization. Some years back, such a commission did exist.

One of the present EXECOM members served on that commission.

Its purpose? To serve as a think tank. To come up with new ideas. To make long range strategy, free from the current emergencies and things immediate. For a moment, at least, forget the trees and look at the forest.

It was learned that the role of the former planning commission had been assigned to the Executive Committee. This did not seem very practical to some. The EXECOM is overloaded with present problems to have time for the second assigned duty.

Such a commission, to be national in scope and to be productive, must meet several times a year. That became a problem. In the midst of cutting \$100,000 from our next fiscal year's (beginning Oct. 1st) budget, the EXECOM found it difficult to create a commission which will require expenditure not budgeted by the National Council.

Let the EXECOM at least try, it was stated. So at the next meeting early next year a session will be devoted to functioning as a planning commission. How successful it will be remains to be seen.

How complex and fragile are the bonds that hold organizations together. JACL is no exception. Often our internal struggles seem to overshadow our reasons for existing.

It is, however, presumptuous to expect Japanese Americans to speak with one voice. Japanese American community is diverse as any other.

The greater number of needed causes the organization espouses, the greater the chance of displeasing someone. Even when the goal is identical, means of achieving it may differ. But there are better things to do than polarizing ourselves. We do not get anywhere by trading epithets. Name calling is the mark of intellectual poverty.

JACL must expand its role as an educational and human rights organization. JACL remains the best hope for over half a million Japanese Americans in their struggle for equal justice in America. We hope that none of us will ever need to feel, "My life has no meaning. I'm uncommitted."



WASHINGTON WRAP-UP: Ron Ikejiri

One More Time

Over the years, JACL has been fortunate to have legislative issues which it has supported in Congress become the law of the land.

The nationwide involvement of the JACL chapters, members, and friends brought about the realization of the Evacuation Claims Act of 1948; the Immigration Act of 1952; Statehood for Hawaii; Civil Rights Act of 1964; Repeal of Title II of the Internal Security Act; and Civil Service Internment Credit Act, to mention some legislative successes.

Today, JACLers are faced with their most important legislative challenge... passage of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians Act by the Senate (S 1647) and the House (HR 5499).

For many first and second generation JACLers, the Commission bill represents the first step towards the writing of a fitting end to the relocation experience. For many third and fourth generation JACLers, the Commission bill represents their first involvement in a national JACL legislative effort.

JACLers are fortunate to have Members of Congress who are willing to bring the Relocation issue before their colleagues. Yet, they cannot do it alone.

If the Commission bill is to become a reality; if the presumption that the governmental action leading up to E.O. 9066, and the justification for same is to be rebutted... then JACLers and friends must become actively involved and participate fully at the chapter, district, and national levels.

The prospects for success on the Commission bill are good... after all, we have justice on our side. Yet, without your involvement, JACL may not add this measure to its remarkable list of legislative successes.

Perhaps, one of our Japanese American sayings expresses what needs to be done best... "moichido"... one more time.

35 Years Ago

NOV. 11, 1944

Oct. 30—Nisei infantry rescues Texas "lost battalion" trapped for five days in Vosges Mountains, Bruyeres liberated.

Nov. 1—Price (Utah) officials worried by desecration of Japanese graves in local cemetery.

Nov. 3—Disciples of Christ international convention urges re-

moval of government restrictions on Nisei.

Nov. 4—Gordon Hirabayashi enters "nolo contendere" plea on indictment charging failure to report for government work as conscientious objector at Spokane federal court.

Nov. 7—Colorado voters reject anti-alien land law proposal (Amendment No. 3) in close election.

Long-lost pen pal

Editor:

I am searching for my WW2 pen pal—Roberta Nishimoto or Yamamoto, who was sent with her family to a camp somewhere in Arizona. I lived in Harrisburg, Pa., at the time and we were both about 10 years old. This is all the information I can remember.

RUTHANN (Engle) BLANDINO
1020 Newport St.
Las Vegas, Nv. 89110

Uplifting news

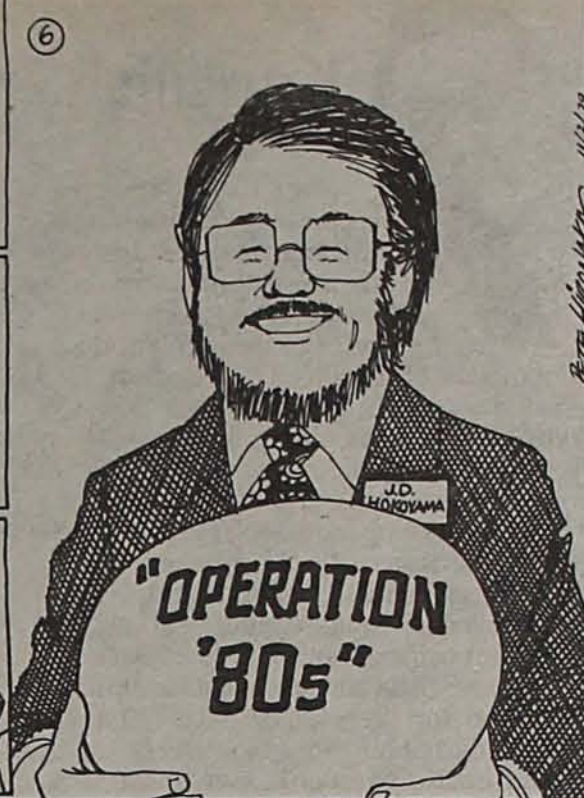
Editor:

Jean Tamaki, secretary to Bishop Alden J. Bell, retiring bishop of the Roman Catholic diocese of Sacramento, received awards from both Sacramento Police Chief Jack Kearns and the bishop (a papal medal) for action Oct. 3 in pulling a knife-wielding attacker away from the bishop. Bell received minor cuts and has recovered.

In these times of non-involvement and non-caring, news like this uplifts my soul. I hope it spreads far and wide.

KIYO SATO-VIACRUCIS
Sacramento, Ca.

THE BIRTH OF AN ITINERANT SALESMAN



A BACKGROUND REPORT

Japan-U.S. Friendship Act

The JACL International Relations Committee, which had raised a few blistering points about the non-involvement of Nikkei with respect to the Japan-U.S. Friendship Act (PL 94-118), is renewing its campaign. The following background report should show where this committee is coming from, to use the vernacular. No previous JACL international relations committee has assumed such a monumental task of tackling an entrenched academia.—Ed.

By CHARLES C. KUBOKAWA

JACL International Relations Committee Chairperson

JACL over the recent years has been quite sensitive to the deteriorating relationship between United States and Japan. One of the earliest signs of this rift was evident to JACL delegates attending the 1972 national convention in Washington, D.C., where JACLers met up with electrical workers demonstrating on the U.S. Capitol steps. They shouted: "Go back to Japan and take all the electronic products back with you!"

Since that time, the anti-Japanese fervor has accelerated to the point where the actions have become bolder and more noticeable to all. There have been anti-Japanese import cartoons, pickets around Japanese consulates, bumper stickers, reactions from the devaluation of the dollar, etc., that all have had impact on the U.S. Nikkei community as well.

We Americans (Nisei, Sansei or Nikkei) with personal characteristics of the Japanese Nationals (Nipponjin) cannot be identified as Americans at the onset. Even if we speak perfect English, the Nikkei American is asked whether we were born in Japan. This type of sedate confrontation generates more reason to educate the general public. Because of such occurrences, it behooves the Nikkei to work for better U.S.-Japan relations.

The Nikkei reap the harvest of public reaction from both countries—whether good or bad, whether needed or not, because of our ethnic background and physical appearances.

Though JACL does not engage in the direct politics between the President of the United States and the Prime Minister of Japan, we have become more attuned to the grass roots feelings in America about U.S.-Japan relations, providing us with a practical and effective resource to assist our nation. Therefore, our "real world" community exchanges, activities and input can be of more value, on a one-to-one basis, than that exercised at the academia level.

What is J-USFA all about?

After months of committee hearings and negotiations, the 94th Congress passed the Japan-U.S. Friendship Act, PL 94-228, on Oct. 20, 1975.

Throughout the time the bill was being pushed (1972-1975), JACL was aware of it but it did not step into active shaping of the measure. Was it because JACL then did not understand the full impact affecting the Nikkei in the future? Or was it bad oversight? Whatever, our organization now is working toward amending and filling in the voids which we feel exist in the public law.

The Act itself was written to help maintain and promote peace and understanding between Japan and the United States. The main source of funds to implement the Act and the proper administration of the Act through the Commission had been agreed upon when the Ryukyus and Daito Islands (Okinawa) were reverted from U.S. possession to Japan. The Act states:

"The purpose of this Act is to provide for the use of an amount equal to a part of the total sum payable by Japan to the United States in connection with the reversion of Okinawa to Japanese administration and the remaining fund of the amount set aside in 1962 for educational and cultural exchange with Japan (known as the GARIOA Account) to aid education and culture at the highest level in order to enhance reciprocal people-to-people understanding and to support the close friendship and mutuality of interests between the U.S. and Japan."

Scope of the Act

From the Act, a Japan-United States Friendship Trust ("JUST") Fund was established, and is now held in the U.S. Treasury. It can only be used for the promotion of scholarly, cultural, and artistic activities between Japan and the U.S., such as:

- 1—Support for studies in institutions of higher education or scholarly research in Japan and the United States.
- 2—Support for major collections of Japanese books and publications in appropriate libraries located throughout the United States.
- 3—Programs in the arts in association with appropriate institutions.
- 4—Fellowships and scholarships at the graduate and faculty levels.
- 5—Support for visiting professors and lecturers at colleges and universities.
- 6—Other Japan-United States cultural and educational activities consistent with the purposes of the Act.
- 7—Administrative expenses for the management of the activities of the Act.

It must be remembered that all the seven activities mentioned are designed to foster mutual understanding between Japan and the United States, therefore, parallel programs and funding allocations are established in both countries.

One may wonder how much is involved in this "JUST" Fund. When PL 94-118 was established, over \$30 million in U.S. and Japanese currencies were provided. An additional \$6 million was authorized for future appropriation when the Commission has demonstrated its needs and capacities. As of October 1977, the "JUST" Fund had close to \$19 million in the U.S. and \$14 million in Japan. The annual expenditures were compensated by the interest income generated from the U.S. Treasury bills, and deposits in U.S. banks in Japan. As noted in the 1977 report of the Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission, the "JUST" Fund, after paying all expenses, still increased by almost \$2 million to over \$33 million.

How were the funds expended?

U.S. Dollars were spent in grant studies for:

- JAPANESE STUDIES IN AMERICAN EDUCATION.
- 1—Graduate fellowships (predoctoral training-Japanese studies).
 - 2—Research: (a) Journal of Japanese Studies; (b) Five regional Japan forums, and (c) Promotion of science for joint research in social sciences.
 - 3—Legal education: (a) Support of two American law graduate fellows in Japanese Law; (b) Publication subsidy for its Annual, "Law in Japan."
 - 4—Business education: Survey and conference, reviewing the state of education about Japan in American graduate schools of business.
 - 5—Secondary education: Pilot program to improve teaching about Japan in American secondary schools.

AMERICAN STUDIES IN JAPANESE EDUCATION

- 1—Build up of American Studies library collections at eight Japanese universities.

CULTURAL COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

- 1—Educational and public television: Part I of TV film for classrooms, "Japan the Living Tradition".
- 2—Counterpart exchanges: (a) For journalists-exchange of Japanese and American middle management teams in journalism; (b) For parliamentarians - The former members of Congress Inc. to support the visit of a multi-party Japanese parliamentary delegation to the U.S., and (c) For state educational leaders.

The Japanese Yen Grants provided for:

JAPANESE STUDIES IN AMERICAN EDUCATION

- 1—Language: studying Japanese (graduate students).
- 2—General education: support Waseda International Programs.

AMERICAN STUDIES IN JAPANESE EDUCATION

- 1—Kyoto American Studies Summer Seminar for promotion of science.
- 2—Travel costs of Japanese scholars participating in American conferences.
- 3—Tokyo University: development of library, American Studies Center.

CULTURAL COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

- 1—Educational and public television: Production of "The Japanese", trilogy by Hawaii Public TV on PBS network.
- 2—Counterpart exchanges: For interpreters to aid state educational leaders coming to Japan.
- 3—Services to Americans in Japan: Assistance to American professional, academic, and artistic visitors to Japan.

All expenses for programs in 1977 totaled to \$749,341.28.

Ironically the JACL biennial budget for this (1979-80) biennium is comparable to the funds which were expended by the Commission.

To Be Continued

* For purposes of this report, NIKKEI (which is Japanese for "of Japanese ancestry") will only refer to Americans of Japanese ancestry. The term actually is broad and would include the NIPPONJIN—the Japanese National.—Ed.



FROM THE FRYING PAN: Bill Hosokawa

'Konglish': Knitting Korean and English

Denver, Colo.

From time to time this column has reported on the amusing corruptions of English when the Japanese adapt it to their use. (Since some readers found it insulting and demeaning that I should refer to these corruptions as Japlish, a combination of Japanese and English, I'll bow to their sensitivity and not use the term.) Now, I've run across *Konglish* which, according to Ahn Jung-Hyo of Orient Press feature service is what develops when English words are absorbed in Korean.

For many years, Ahn says, Koreans thought "small" meant American-made G.I. fatigues. The reason was that the U.S.-supplied fatigues that Korean soldiers wore were always marked "small" on the label.

Korean businessmen are greeted at tea-rooms by "regi" or hostesses. Ahn isn't sure whether it is an Oriental abbreviation for "registered lady". The regi offer customers "carnation" with their tea or coffee, which has become the Korean word for cream because of the popularity of Carnation brand condensed milk.

Some early customers drink "morning coffee", which is Korean for coffee with a raw egg in it. This caused many "regi" to believe "morning" is the English word for eggs. Later in the day, "witty" is a popular drink, and that is an abbreviation for "whiskey tea". Too much witty leads to "overeate", which is a nice Korean way of saying upchuck.

Many Korean uses of English are the same as, or resemble the way Japanese have adapted English. For example, the verb "hire" became a Korean noun meaning "taxi" or "vehicle for hire". I first heard that expression from a young Japanese lad soon after World War II, although he pronounced it "hai-ya". The Japanese used to, and maybe still do, call a white shirt "wai-shatsu". In Korean it's "wai-shasu". And in both languages "departo" is short for department store, "apahto" for apartment, and "punku" means punctured, as in tire.

In Korean almost any "apahto" with an "air con" (air conditioner) and "Washington college" (W.C., or flush toilet) qualifies as a "mansion". I think I've written once or twice that the difference between a "mansion" and an "apahto" in Tokyo is that one does not hang the bedding for the daily airing out in the windows of a "mansion".

Another interesting use of an English word with an altogether different meaning is "nylon", as in stocking. Ahn says it became popular in Korea as a term for anything artificial, synthetic or phoney. A "nylon" patient was a person who was not sick at all, but pretended to be so as to get sick leave from his job or a military furlough.

Konglish can pretty well confuse a foreigner who hears unfamiliar words with different meanings, but pronunciation problems complicate communication even further.

"The Korean language," Ahn writes, "has no *f*, *v*, or *th* sounds, so an American watching a baseball game on TV (or TB) might hear the announcers describing the "drill" (thrill) of a "pine" (fine) play, or a "poul" (foul) past "dud" (third) base.

"And there's the story about the pretty young girl who had trouble with her English *th* sounds. Asked her age, she replied, 'I'm dirty.' And her husband? 'He's dirty, too'."

One of the more unusual adaptations of English into both Korean and Japanese is the word, "cunning" or cheating. But I haven't heard Japanese use the word "meeting" as the Koreans do. A Korean "meeting" is a mass blind date involving boys and girls in classes from two different colleges.

So you can tell your folks you're going to a school meeting, and they'll think you're taking your education very seriously. Reminds me of a bar in downtown Denver called The Office. You could call your wife and say you'd be just a little late for supper—held up at the office, you know.

If we want to talk about freedom, we must mean freedom for others as well as ourselves, and we must mean freedom for everyone inside our frontiers as well as outside. —WENDELL L. WILKIE

EAST WIND: Bill Marutani

Let Us Reason Together



Philadelphia
LET'S SUPPOSE that:
Some Governmental
agency—perhaps the
Defense Department,
HEW, or the CIA—

stumbles across a hoard of unexpected funds that no one knew existed and for which there is no allocation. Or some department plugs a loophole through which funds had been drained in the past, and the department ends up with a huge surplus. Let's further suppose that Congress, upon learning of this unexpected trove, tacks an amendment to some innocuous appropriation bill—an amendment to pay \$25,000 per person incarcerated pursuant to Executive Order 9066—and the President signs the bill. All done quietly, painlessly, and without hoopla.

I JUST WONDER. Would that satisfy those Nisei who oppose the establishment of a commission to study the ramification of the imprisonment of Issei and Nisei in the United States? Would the payment then be viewed as vindication, as "wiping the slate clean", as a deterrent against similar recurrences in the future?

Is payment the end we seek?

I'VE NO DOUBT as to the sincerity and the good intentions of those who seek direct, individual payments and who oppose the commission route. ("What happened to us was so blatantly violative of our fundamental rights that we don't need any commission to tell us what we so irrefutably know. So skip the commission and let's demand money." Having been an in-

mate imprisoned in Pinedale and Tule Lake, I can understand such a view.

BUT I SUGGEST to you that payment alone, individually or otherwise, will accomplish nothing. We would continue to have abysmal ignorance prevailing among our fellow citizens as to what happened, right in this proud and mighty land, when some 120,000 of its citizens and their parents were summarily herded, like so much cattle, into barbed-wire compounds. Hence, mere payment would in no manner be a deterrent; no lesson would have been learned.

IT IS NOT enough for us to be adamant in our position that imprisonment was wrong, notwithstanding what the U.S. Supreme Court had to say about it. And if after the payments as each temporarily gratified victim of EO 9066 clutches the pittance for a check of \$25,000 which will be spent and be gone forever—if after all that, we remain the only ones convinced of the wrong perpetuated against us, then nothing will have been accomplished.

YES, ANY HEARINGS will turn over stones from which will crawl foul racism of the type you thought were extinct long ago. You will hear remarks from your fellow citizens that will make you livid; you will hear spoken unspeakable prattle. And you will then begin to gain a perspective of your position on the road toward the mountain top and realize how much farther we have yet to travel.

BUT ALSO YOU will find that the vast majority, an overwhelming majority of our citizenry, are people of goodwill and understanding, who can and will be sensitized, who will then be more vigilant, who will better recognize the rhetoric of corruption, who will then be willing to stand shoulder-to-shoulder ... with you. And that, money can't buy.

AND SO IT is that it is not enough to wrap ourselves in the mantle of self-righteousness. Even if we be right.

Official swears 'I do' again

CARSON, Ca. — For one man being sworn in recently as a member of the Environmental Commission in Carson, the circumstances were familiar.

City clerk Helen Kawagoe administered the oath to Tak Kawagoe and he responded: "I do." The last time he said it was when he married her.



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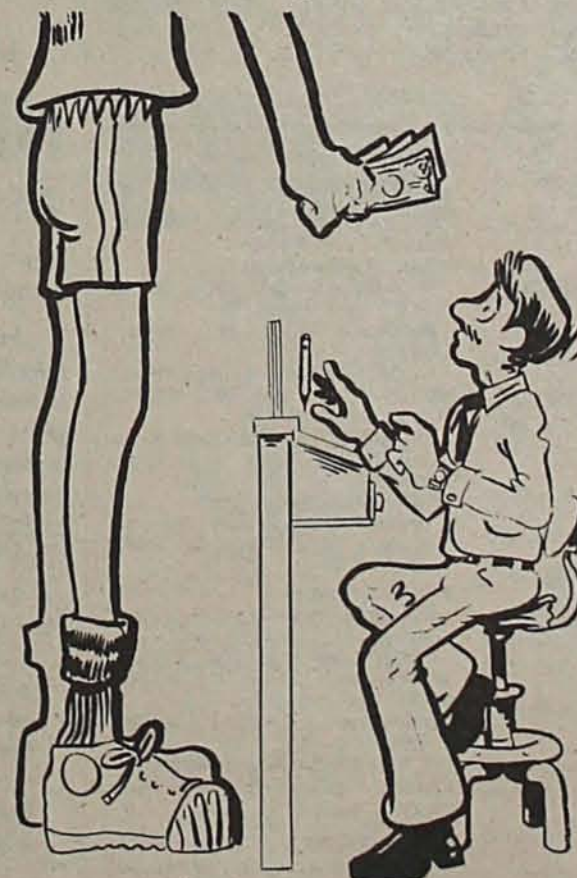
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Children—the Dependent Minority

(This essay helped Cheryl Ann to win the \$500 Washington, D.C. JACL scholarship first prize. Applicants, besides submitting their record in school and out of school, wrote on the theme of social injustice.)

By CHERYL ANN WATANABE
(Washington, D.C. JACL)

Although our founding fathers opened the Constitution with the phrase, "We the People," to the more than 64 million children in the United States today those words might as well have been "We the Adults." People who have not reached majority are not always treated as people.

The States have separate judicial and penal systems for their young. Juvenile courts, juvenile detention centers and the entire juvenile complex were created in an effort to guide and protect young people. Young people, however, never had a voice in the establishment of this juvenile system; nor do they have input into matters in its operation affecting their personal welfare and civil rights. As a consequence of being such a voiceless and powerless minority, this country's children suffer grave injustices.

Punitive measures are normally reserved for those who commit crimes. The same measures are, however, inflicted upon young people who have committed no other "crime" than being runaways, truants, or abused, neglected or unwanted children.

Daily, the courts label 4,800 children as Persons in Need of Supervision. PINS are often children from the lower income strata of society. They may be defined as PINS through the intervention of schools or welfare agencies seeking to remove them from undesirable home settings. Children may also become PINS if parents surrender custody because they cannot control or cannot provide for them.

Despite its efforts to provide a more desirable environment, the State often is no better a parent than the child's natural parents. PINS usually spend time incarcerated in detention centers and, in some states, adult prisons. Although PINS are not guilty of criminal offenses, they are often imprisoned for weeks or months, or spend years growing up in various institutions. Ironically, juveniles who have committed serious crimes, including murder, have an average detention period of four and one-half days!

Certain states have made legislative attempts to separate PINS from the juvenile penal system in order to stop the practice of imprisoning unwanted children together with criminal offenders. Through the shortsightedness of the same legislatures, however, funds were not provided to ensure the establishment of separate care facilities for these children. Too often, heartstrings are easier pulled than purse strings.

It would seem that an alternative to institutionalization of unwanted children would be foster homes; but foster homes are available to only a few. There are several reasons for the shortage of homes. Of the prospective foster parents who apply, two-thirds are rejected. Of those who are accepted as foster parents, 90 percent refuse to accept children with behavioral problems. Since many PINS have behavioral problems, these children are shelved in institutions.

Sadly, money is spent tearing families apart instead of helping them to stay together. The effects of such practices on an intact family can be devastating. For example:

One New York mother of three pre-schoolers... found herself with a broken furnace last winter and no money for the \$250 repair bill. One child developed a severe respiratory infection, prompting

the welfare department to rush all three children into foster homes (after explaining they couldn't lend her the \$250). Without her kids, the woman couldn't collect state welfare benefits; without the benefits she couldn't show means of support for the children. Defeated, she returned to her parents' home in another state, leaving New York with a foster-care bill that averages \$10,000 a year per child. (Newsweek, March 5, 1979, pp. 94, 96)

Had the State used \$250 to help the family in its financial crisis, the breakup would not have been necessary.

In New York City, welfare mothers receive approximately \$215 per month for three children; foster parents in the New York metropolitan area receive \$672 for three adolescents; and large institutions receive between 20 and 27 thousand dollars per child annually. In short, (when) the State is willing to spend more, the further the family is dismembered.

This nation is more concerned with the future of its oil reserves than with the future of its children. How forgetful we are, that when we are old, our children will have to run our country and provide for our needs. The time has come for us to change the juvenile laws and practices which inflict injustices upon our children. By doing so, we will ensure ourselves a bountiful harvest, for what greater national resource can be found than our children?

Chapter Pulse

Continued from Page 3

impressed with the presentation but found haunting the financial constraints affecting the national organization today and wondered if the plans would be effectively implemented, it was noted by Dr. Tom Taketa, chapter president.

chapter pulse seabrook

Senior Citizen Night
Seabrook JACL will treat and entertain local senior citizens at its annual appreciation night on Sunday, Dec. 2, 6 p.m., at the Buddhist Church social hall, it was announced by Peggy Fukawa, chapter president. A buffet dinner will precede the evening program of

Tulare County JACL eyes 45th year

VISALIA, Ca.—Tulare County JACL, founded in 1935, is contacting Reedley and Parlier chapters for a joint 45th anniversary celebration in 1980. Delano is also being invited since it was part of Tulare County JACL during the formative years.

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Published May, 1978, by Hiroshima-Nagasaki Publishing Committee, Tokyo; 343pp, b&w, color; hardcover with slipcase. (\$25 plus \$1.25 postage)

Most of the photographs were taken during the first couple of months after the holocausts... Number of paintings are by Hibakusha three decades later... Over 4,000 pictures and about 2,000 paintings were gathered for selection by the publishers... Most photographs were printed from original negatives... This work is the first such record to be published from such a comprehensive range of materials... Some in color are captioned "U.S. Army Returned Materials", meaning these were printed from films returned from the U.S. Archives in 1973... Most captions carefully note the time, place, or distance from ground zero where the bomb exploded.

• For too long we have turned aside from the tragic and horrible aspects of our history. As philosopher George Santayana said: "Those who ignore the tragic errors of history, are condemned to repeat them." In this case, Human Survival is the issue. We must look and we must learn.

—PAUL PERLIN

Consultant on Special Programs,
Univ. of So. Calif. School of Continuing Education
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Idaho Falls to host 20th IDC confab

IDAHO FALLS—The 20th biennial Intermountain JACL District Council convention will be hosted by the local Idaho Falls JACL over the Thanksgiving weekend, Nov. 23-24, at the Westbank, it was announced by Gary Koyama and Sam Sakaguchi, convention co-chairmen.

Floyd Shimomura, California deputy attorney general and national JACL v.p., public affairs, will be guest speaker at the Saturday dinner-dance.

IDC Gov. John Tameno will call the district convention to order on Friday, 2 p.m., with the JAYS also present. The Friday "opening ceremonies" banquet will feature Bruce Shimizu, national JACL youth director, as speaker.

Convention reports are expected to place emphasis on the theme, "Yesterday to Tomorrow".

Gerry Yamada, chicken teriyaki; Betty Wakiji, Yoshikami, Batchelder, JAYS, other items.

Nominations Open

Washington, D.C. JACL will introduce nominees for five positions on the chapter board at its general meeting Nov. 17, followed by mail voting during December and installation Jan. 26 at Ft. Myer, it was reminded by George Wakiji and Miyuki Yoshikami of the nominations committee.

The Nov. 17 meeting will also feature a workshop on Nisei aging and retirement to be chaired by Pat Okura. Place is to be announced.

Ed Watanabe chairs the annual mochitsuki Dec. 29.

The annual Arigato fall picnic Sept. 15 attracted over 150 members, young and old. John Yuasa and Bob Batchelder, in charge, were assisted by:

Belgica Yuasa, Hisae Batchelder, program; Hank Wakabayashi, G Wakiji, Ken Ando, Bob Alfaro,

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EAST L.A.: 13-Fred S Nakagawa.
GARDENA VALLEY: 18-George T Yamauchi.
NEW YORK: 26-May N Hirata.
OMAHA: 17-Yukio Ando.
REEDLEY: 4-Frank Kimura.
SACRAMENTO: 19-Frank M Daikai.
SALT LAKE CITY: 22-Alice Kasai.
SEATTLE: 28-William Y Mimbu.
SEQUOIA: 32-William H Enomoto.
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Books from PC

This supersedes prior lists as items no longer available are deleted.

Thirty-Five Years in the Frying Pan, by Bill Hosokawa. Selections from his popular column in the Pacific Citizen with new background material and a running commentary. \$10.95 (Postage is on the PC on this book.)

The Bamboo People: The Law and Japanese Americans, by Frank Chuman. Legal and legislative history of the Japanese in America. A "must" for every collection. Hardcover, \$12.00 postpaid.

Japanese American Story, by Budd Fukei. A good taste of the history and cultural heritage. One chapter by Mike Masaoka recalls JACL's role during Evacuation. Hardcover, \$7.70 postpaid.

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Calendar

* non-JACL event

• NOV. 9 (Friday)
Oakland—Bd mtg, Sumitomo Bank, 7:30pm.

• Philadelphia—Bd mtg, Kaz Horita res, 8pm.

• NOV. 10 (Saturday)
Cleveland—Japanese Holiday Fair, Euclid, Jr HS, 4-9pm.

• San Gabriel Valley—Installation-schol awd supper, JCC, West Covina; John Saito, spkr.

• MPDC/Mile Hi—DC mtg (2da), Executive Towers, Denver; Sat banq spkr, Rep. Norman Mineta.

• NOV. 11 (Sunday)
PSWDC/Marine—Qtrly sess, Airport Marina Hotel, Los Angeles; 9am-4:30pm. Karl Nobuyuki, spkr, "Op '80s".

• Pocastello—Chow mein dnr, JACL Hall, 11:30-7pm.

• Cincinnati—Bd mtg, Judv Ibarra res. "San Jose—Rep. Norman Mineta dnr, Hyatt House, 6:30pm; Ed Asner, headline spkr.

• Seabrook—Chow mein dnr, Buddhist Church hall.

• NOV. 13 (Tuesday)
Stockton—Election, Cal 1st Bank, 8pm.

• Milwaukee—Bd mtg, Mukai's res, 7:30pm.

• Dayton—Asian Wing dedication, Dayton Art Institute.

• Los Angeles—Asian Businessmen's Assn dnr, Woo Lee Oak Restaurant, 950 S Vermont, 7pm; Hank Yim, spkr.

• NOV. 15 (Thursday)
Los Angeles—UCLA Nikkei alumni dnr, Endowed Chair in JA Studies, Biltmore Bowl, 7:30pm.

• Venice—Asn Amer Writers panel, 681 Venice Blvd, 4-7pm; Toshi Mori, spcl gst.

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• NOV. 16 (Friday)
Milwaukee—Holiday Folk Fair (3da), MECCA.

• Oakland—Asn Manpower Sv open house, 477-15th St, 4-6pm.

• NOV. 17 (Saturday)
Washington, D.C.—Mtg, Nisei Aging & Retirement Plng.

• Portland—50th Anny dinner-dance.

• CCDC—Dist convention, Fresno Sheraton Inn (2da), Rep. Robert Matsui, Sun banq spkr.

• Monterey—NCGA golf tourn (2da), Pebble Beach, Spy Glass courses.

• NOV. 18 (Sunday)
Dayton/Cincinnati—Joint inst dnr, Emperor's Wok, 1:30pm; Dr Gustav Eckstein, spkr.

• NOV. 23 (Friday)
IDC-Idaho Falls—Dist conv (2da), West Bank Motel, Idaho Falls.

• Diablo Valley—Holiday bazaar, Pleasant Hills Comm Rec Ctr.

• NOV. 24 (Saturday)
Milwaukee—Gen mtg, Int'l Inst, 7:30p

• Sacramento—Inst dnr, Sacramento Inn, 7pm; Past President Roasts: Percy Masaki, Katsuro Murakami, Judge Mamoru Sakuma.

• NOV. 30 (Friday)
Cincinnati—Int'l Folk Festival (2da), Conv Ctr.

• Dayton—Saeko Ichinohe dance recital, Art Institute, 8pm.

• DEC. 1 (Saturday)
Chicago—35th Inaugural dnr, Orrington Hotel, Evanston; Bill Kurtis, spkr.

• Marina South—Inst dnr, Rep. Norman Mineta, spkr. (place to be set).

• Hoosier—Inst dnr, Carefree Catering, Riley Tower, Indianapolis, 6:30pm.

• New YorkFund-raiser.
Washington—APAFEC Conf: "Moving In, Moving Up", Hyatt Regency.

• DEC. 2 (Sunday)
Seabrook—Sr cit appreciation day, 6 pm; Buddhist Church hall.

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Redress to headline Mtn.-Plains meeting

DENVER, Colo. — Rep. Norman Mineta (D-Cal.) will be banquet speaker at the fall meeting of the Mountain-Plains JACL District Council to be held at the Executive Towers Inn, 1405 Curtis St., on Nov. 10.

Mineta will speak on HR 5499, which proposes the creation of a Commission to study the "War-time Evacuation and Internment of Civilians", involving the forced removal of Japanese Americans from the

West Coast in 1942. Tickets are \$13.50 per person.

John Tateishi of San Francisco, national chairman of the JACL Redress Committee, will speak at a pre-convention dinner Nov. 9, 7:30 p.m., at Ben's Restaurant, 620 Federal Blvd. He will speak on "What I always wanted to know about Redress, but never dared to ask." Dinner will be \$8 per person.

The meeting will be convened by district governor

Mits Kawamoto, from Omaha, at 10 a.m., Saturday, in the Sebastian Bach Room of the Inn. The Saturday brunch and conference fee is \$5 per person. MPDC business matters will be discussed Saturday afternoon (Nov. 10) and Sunday morning.

National Associate Director J.D. Hokoyama of San Francisco, and Cathy Hironaka of Dayton, Ohio, National Youth Coordinating Council chairperson, will also attend.

MOSHI MOSHI: Jin Konomi

Townsend Harris's 'Geisha'

Continued from Last Week

In Edo Harris was successful in convincing the *bakufu*, the shogun government, of the gravity of the international situation. Only 10 years previously, England and France had forced the great empire of China to its knees in the infamous Opium War, and was rumored to be eyeing Japan as their next prey. It was to Japan's advantage, he told the Japanese, to have a treaty with the United States. The treaty was duly drafted. But such was the weakened authority of the *bakufu* at this time that it no longer could make any important decision of state without the consent of the imperial court in Kyoto, which was under the domination of the most rabidly anti-foreign faction. As the process of getting ratification was expected to be long drawn out, Harris returned to Shimoda.

This time he hired another 17 year old, Osayo. According to the town journal, she commuted from Shimoda each evening, except on her regular nights off. She was also off when Harris was indisposed. This arrangement lasted from July to December, 1858, when Harris was appointed the first American minister to Japan and had to move to Edo.

Considering the briefness of her service to Harris, it was a cruel fate that dogged Okichi to the end. For, forever after, she was to be called by the sobriquet—or was epithet more apt?—Tojin Okichi, or Okichi of the Hairy Foreigner. After 32 years of dissolute, self-abandoned life, she died a forsaken suicide. On the bank of the Inau River where she drowned

herself, a pair of *zori* were left, neatly side by side.

The story of Tojin Okichi is a tragic footnote to the history of Japan in the throes of metamorphosis from medieval to modern state.

It is strongly reminiscent of "The Butter Ball", Maupassant's bitter commentary on the ingratitude, hypocrisy, and cruelty of the "good" people. As Butter Ball performed a task which none of the passengers of the coach was willing to, as Okichi served the state in a repugnant task which others shunned. As Butter Ball was treated with silent contempt by the good people who were saved from dishonor by her service, so was Okichi ostracized and despised for the rest of her life.

But if that was all she would have been quietly forgotten as all the Butter Balls of history. Ofuku, Heusken's woman, after Heusken left for Edo (or after he was assassinated by a Japanese fanatic), married, lived out her life in reasonable happiness and contentment. About Osayo, Okichi's successor at Gyokusenji, we know nothing. For that matter, there were scores, possibly hundreds, of Japanese women who served the sailors and traders who flocked to Shinagawa and Yokohama only a few years later. Some of

them became *rashamen*, kept women of westerners. In time their notoriety was forgotten, and they passed into the humdrum anonymity of the masses.

What made Okichi so different? Why was she such a tragic figure?

It was her stars to begin with, but in greater part in herself, that she had such a tragic life. Fumiko Enji has a chapter on her visit to Shimoda, in her *Nyonin Fudoki* (The Geography of Women). She speculates that Okichi was a free soul. Born in Shimoda, she grew up breathing the free air of the Pacific Ocean. Daily she observed the men of the sea who risked their lives each time they went to sea in their frail boats. Something of their untrammelled spirit and calm fatalism went into her character. Unlike the girls of the castle towns and farming villages, she was not disciplined in submissiveness to men. When the town officials began to apply their persuasive coercion, she reacted with defiant bravado. "If I must sell myself to escape from poverty, why should I draw a line at *tojin*?" could well have been her reasoning.

Harris never married. If he had started out his life as a trader with any religious scruples, they must have

Contacts are urgently needed from individuals in Montana, Wyoming, North and South Dakota, Kansas and Oklahoma, in order to assist in the National JACL Redress campaign. Anyone knowing of Japanese Americans in the Deep South were urged to write: Min Yasui, 1150 So. Williams St., Denver, Colo. 80210. #

been worn thin in his roamings throughout Indo-China and the East Indies. Before he went to Japan, he was the American vice-consul in Ningpo, China. No doubt he had come to form an opinion, or an attitude, toward Oriental women. He must have expected certain qualities in them, such as meekness and complaisance. To his surprise and probably discomfiture, he found in Okichi a different type of woman, a

Continued on Next Page

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From Nobuyuki Nakajima

Independent Retirees Better Off

Cleveland, Ohio

A recent survey in Japan indicates a surprising number of retired people live alone. It raises the question of whether they receive adequate attention. Regular visits by the publicly-appointed social worker would not be enough. Even worse, retirees are scattered all over the cities.

What's happened to the Japanese tradition of caring for the elderly? But, before asking this question, we must realize the fact that the independent retirees are lucky, while those who live with their children's families often have serious problems of living together. One TV melodrama treating this subject became a most talked-about program.

When people live together, the closer they are, the smaller problems become more important. When there is a generation gap in value judgment, day-to-day trivia is no longer trivial. For example: leftovers.

The elder generation regards throwing away leftovers as "mottaenai"—wasteful. This is the same generation that weathered the war years and postwar starvation period and which sacrificed themselves so that their children had enough to eat. They cannot endure seeing their own children wasting food.

But the younger generation, not knowing hunger or scarcity, the attitude toward leftover is different. Throw it out because there's no room in the tiny refrigerator. The leftover may be spoiled. Besides we tend to overeat, the younger people say.

The inter-generational conflict continues in communication. The elders think the younger people are curt, insensitive and inattentive to the subtleties of life. The young people think the elders to be emotional, irrational and poor verbalizers. So the problem continues, whether obvious or denied.

I believe that retirees had better live separately from their children; however, this requires retirement communities with all necessary services and facilities. I am recommending to build the retirement communities in the U.S. for a million Japanese.



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The Question of Identity

icans. I wonder what this actually means.

For obvious reasons, most of us consider ourselves as Americans first, because of the way we have been brought up, our educational background and the whole spectrum of propensities and preferences drawn from the culture and society into which we were born. We are Americans, it is true, but our identity as Americans is more a sensed reality than one that can be discerned analytically. That probably has always been the case with national identity, no matter how hard one tries to define identity.

As Americans, we value certain qualities: responsible individualism, dynamism, greatness. Of course, what obtains

here in the case of identifying what we are as Americans can be applied to a greater or lesser degree to other cultures and societies as well. Other countries also value and place emphasis on individual effort, a certain dynamic readiness to cope with changing situations and the greatness of one's nation. So what are we really saying? Probably that when all is said and done, one's identity is really a matter of a felt existence rather than a discerned one.

We pride ourselves on our heritage as Japanese. That is fine—natural and healthy, but not essentially. We cannot be Japanese any more than we can assume a foreign identity or be something that we are not, for we are born to this cul-

ture. So our being Japanese is really a matter of appreciation rather than the absorption or assimilation of another culture. We can appreciate Japanese culture, society and the country in general without any loss of our own sense of identity as Americans. But somehow we are closer to Japan, or feel we are, than the casual foreigner because of our heritage and background. So where does that put us?

It puts us in a unique position. It puts us in a position of having to deal with ourselves. What may all too easily be assumed to be a dilemma of dualities in our makeup poses a unique opportunity—that of mining our potential as individuals.

Contrary to certain easy presumptions, the nightmare of our incarceration and all that they called forth from us in terms of sacrifice and hard work did not shackle us but freed us as men and women.

What we have to do is to apply our brains and guts to answering the nightmare in individual terms and, ergo, we become more powerful individuals for our ordeal. It is not an ordeal anyone would welcome but when put up against the proverbial wall, we have demonstrated that we can come up with viable solutions. And those solutions have to do with finding ourselves and being ourselves after going through a process of self-examination which leads ultimately to enlightened individualism.

If we are or have been self-conscious as an ethnic minority, that self-consciousness can be turned into self-recognition by the simple measure of gauging one's potential and taking one's life into one's own hands.

What had been self-hatred induced by racism in a white society can be turned into self-love and respect through achievement. We have already achieved this stature.

What had been and could still be a racial inferiority complex need not be compensated for by pointing to Japan's present stature in the world or even to our own accomplishments. It can be answered in terms of our becoming enlightened individuals who have mined their

own resources, expanded their personal horizons and now act as liberated individuals.

Some may say this is not an equal society, but no one can—or would even dare—take away one's right to be himself or herself. They may wish to pretend to.

If I choose to explore the possibilities of my personality and expand my horizons to realize my potential as a human being, God help the person, being or entity that would stand in my way. The right to live as sentient human beings and to explore the possibilities of life belongs to us as individuals. Living through and surviving a unique chapter of racism in America's history, we have earned the right to be whatever we want to become or can be as individuals and I am including, most of all, the life of an intellectual and artist... the philosopher, creative writer, thinker... an unexplored area for most of us. We can aspire to discovering the potential in ourselves. #

OKICHI

Continued from the Previous Page

woman of spirit that belied the beauty of her face. It may be that she showed her distaste openly. It no doubt took all the pleasure out of Harris.

Harris was one of the ablest diplomats of that era and had many other qualities of greatness—as attested by the Townsend Harris Hall of the City College of New York, but he shared with the rest of humanity the weakness of the flesh.

Okichi's *haremono* could have been a mere pretext of getting rid of her, so speculates Miss Enji.

To one (like myself) who expects tragedies to have heroic denouements, her subsequent deterioration is almost painful to follow. And yet in the bathos of all the sordid turns of her life, there is something of the starkness of a Greek tragedy. To the cold stare of contemptuous curiosity, she returned the open defiance of reckless self-abandon. Though she could have sought obscurity in some other towns, she spent most of the rest of her life in Shimoda.

She was somewhat like Hester of "The Scarlet Letter". There must have been a fierce pride in her heart that made her refuse to run away.



I'M NOT A BARBARIAN—Japanese actress Eiko Ando and John Wayne co-starred in "The Barbarian and the Geisha", produced in Japan in 1958.

In the popular Okichi lore, a prominent place is given to Tsurumatsu, the ship carpenter, and Okichi's childhood sweetheart. The two were engaged to marry. How far this is true is not known. But after Gyokusenji, Okichi went to Yokohama to live with him for awhile. But the relationship did not last. She returned to Shimoda and became a hairdresser.

After awhile of this, she moved to Shimada. Shimada was one of the major port towns on the Tokai Highway,

celebrated for its many inns with their in-house courtesans. But it is not known if she became one. She returned to Shimoda and opened a bar-restaurant, catering to sea men. The building that housed this restaurant, Anchokuro, still stands. Where Okichi held forth with her singing and *samisen* there now is Sushi Kane, a *sushi* restaurant.

No doubt she could have made a success of the business. It is known that she had a good singing voice. She still must have been a beautiful woman and no doubt attracted the curious and the designing.

Again it did not work out. She was a heavy drinker and was given to wild behavior when drunk. She ran into debts and lost the restaurant. How she dragged out her remaining life is no longer relevant to this account. She died a practical outcast.

Okichi's story was too tragic to remain an obscure local legend for long. In 1928 Yoshisaburo Toichigaya published his fictionalized life of Okichi and followed up with two historic studies, presenting Okichi to the whole nation as a appealing, unfortunate victim of her times. Other works followed, notably Seika Mayama's *Nyoin Aishi* (The Tragic History of a Woman), and Yuzo Yamamoto's drama, *Tojin Okichi*. By this time the Japanese had outgrown the old xenophobia and even began to adore America. They even saw some romance in Okichi's liaison with Harris.

The cinema further accelerated her popularization. Even Hollywood got into the act. In "The Barbarian" of early 1960s, John Wayne portrays Harris as a full-blooded, macho American. Eiko Ando, an unknown, was picked for the Okichi role.

A Japanese company also produced her story. During the preparations, the producer came to Shimoda to inspect the locations. He heard of an old woman who had known Okichi in life. So he

showed her a batch of publicity pictures of stars and asked her to pick the one most resembling Okichi. She picked Isuzu Yamada, a noted beauty and a great star of the time.

Today, her apotheosis is complete. From a mere unfortunate of a century ago, outcast as much because of her self-abandonment as of her brief service to a *tojin*, she is now a tragic heroine over whom many tears are shed by the romantic young girls of

Japan. Many of them would not hesitate to have a liaison with an American (that is, WASP American). Japan's moral climate has changed as radically as its physical appearance.

Apotheosis? Probably I am exaggerating. But to the descendants of the Shimoda townsmen whose cruelty and hypocrisy made such a tragedy of her life, she has now become the patroness saint of the town's tourist industry. #

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