

ROBERT CHUN CASE

State engineer wins unique job bias issue

Special to the Pacific Citizen
SAN FRANCISCO — Robert Y. D. Chun of Pasadena, Ca., one of the highest ranking Asian Americans employed by the State Dept. of Water Resources (DWR), was found to be a victim of racial discrimination in a ruling issued Jan. 30 by the State Personnel Board.

The board ordered DWR to retroactively appoint Chun to the position of principal engineer in the Southern District with full back salary.

Chun had filed a discrimination complaint with the board in January, 1979, after being denied promotion to the high-level management position when a male Caucasian from DWR's headquarters at Sacramento was selected. DWR had failed to appoint Chun despite his record of excellent performance in a management post for the past 15 years.

Evidence revealed that Chun had been recommended by his supervisor as the most qualified candidate, that he had been commended for his performance while serving in an acting capacity on the same position, and no minority had ever been appointed to this high level post. It was further shown that DWR had also failed to establish affirmative

action goals for the position as required by state law.

The board was not persuaded by DWR's argument that Asian Americans were overrepresented in the engineer classes when compared to numerical parity figures for the civilian labor force. Chun's attorney, Frank A. Iwama of Sacramento, countered DWR's position by quoting from the board's own 1976 special report on the status of Asian and Filipino employees in the California state civil service.

Iwama, who is also National JACL legal counsel, stated that numerical parity figures have no meaning unless such figures are compared for specific job classifications and occupational groups. He emphasized

the board's report which found that,

"On March 31, 1976, there were 4,473 Asian and 824 Filipino full-time state employees in the California State Civil Service system. While data show that Asians participate more in State service (4.2%) than they do in the civilian labor force (2.3%) and that Filipino

Continued on Page 2

Press Row

Gordon Sakamoto, 44, was appointed UPI's Hawaii state editor and Honolulu bureau manager, succeeding Robert C. Miller. A graduate of Missouri Valley College with a teaching certificate from Univ. of Hawaii, he joined the UPI in Honolulu in 1960, transferred to San Francisco three years later where he was assigned to the cable desk and covered a number of sport events including the world series. He is married to the former Jean Miyazaki of Honolulu and they have two sons.

Nisei named for U.S. judge seat in L.A.



A. Wallace Tashima

WASHINGTON — Onetime deputy state attorney general A. Wallace Tashima, 45, of Los Angeles was recently recommended by Sen. Alan Cranston (D-Cal.) to a vacancy on the U.S. Federal District Court at Los Angeles.

The Santa Maria-born Nisei is a partner in the law firm of Morrison and Foerster, the son of Aya and the late Yasutaro Tashima of Los Angeles and who was graduated from Roosevelt High School, from UCLA in political science, and from Harvard Law School. He has been in private practice since 1968.

A member of the California Committee of Bar Examiners, Tashima is married to the former Kiyo Inadomi. They have three children and reside in the Los Feliz area. #

PC office to move to JACCC

LOS ANGELES — The Pacific Citizen editorial-business office is scheduled to move to its permanent quarters in the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, 244 S. San Pedro St. (about three blocks away), next Tuesday, Feb. 19. The phone number (626-6936) and ZIP (90012) are unchanged. #

Modesto Nisei eyes state Assembly seat

MODESTO, Ca. — Westley farmer Mamoru Yamaichi, 53, will challenge Assemblyman John Thurman (D-Modesto) on the November ballot if the Nisei can win the Republican nomination in the June primary.

Yamaichi told the Modesto Bee he is running for the 27th Assembly District seat because he wants to help make the state government "accountable" to the people.

Yamaichi will be pitted against Chris Patterakis of Modesto in the primary. The district includes most of Modesto and the southern part of Stanislaus county and the north and west portions of Merced county.

A widower and father of four children, ranging in age from 13 to 23, he headed the San Joaquin Nisei Farmers League in 1976 and helped form a statewide coalition

which successfully opposed passage of Prop. 13, a farm labor measure.

In Sacramento, the Union reported actor George Takei would challenge Democratic Assemblyman Mike Roos (46th Dist., Hollywood-Los Feliz), quoting the L.A. Rapid Transit District board member he had been approached by Assemblyman Howard Berman's brother, Michael, with offers of "resources and expertise as well as financial" assistance.

But Berman said, while having talked with Takei and assessed his chances, there was "no commitment from me". Roos saw the challenge as a "harsh reprisal" for his recent support of Assembly Speaker Leo McCarthy. McCarthy is being challenged for the speakership by the Beverly Hills area assemblyman.

In Los Angeles, Assembly-



Los Angeles Supervisor Kenneth Hahn (right) commends Assemblyman Paul Bannai (center) during Adventure District Boy Scouts of America dinner for his dedication and contributions in service to young people. At left is Gardena City Councilman Mas Fukai, assistant chief deputy to Hahn.

'American Testimonial' fete in L.A. bolstered

LOS ANGELES — About 70 persons were on hand Jan. 31 at General Lee's Restaurant to bolster support for a community-wide testimonial dinner planned for Mar. 22.

Testimonial dinner co-chairpersons Mitsu Sonoda and Ruth Watanabe called the meeting to develop a better understanding of the proposal to seek legislation to create a fact-finding commission to investigate the events surrounding the evacuation/incarceration

tion that resulted in the issuance of Executive Order 9066 in Feb. 19, 1942.

Present were former Washington JACL representative Mike Masaoka and Minoru Yasui of Denver, who challenged the constitutionality of the curfew law and later spent 270 days in solitary confinement when found guilty of the violation in Portland, Ore., in 1942. They presented a historic overview and why, at the present time, it is necessary to propose an inquiry to all aspects of the WW2 experiences and finally, to vindicate the faith and loyalty of Japanese Americans.

Two bills, S 1647 and HR 5499, introduced last year are spearheaded by the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) and will authorize a Presidential Commission to hold public hearings in ten key cities to hear testimony relating to the WW2 events.

The testimonial dinner, *An American Testimonial: to Members of Congress of Japanese Ancestry, the Japanese American Experience, and the Challenges Ahead in Human and Civil Rights*, will be held on Saturday, Mar. 22,

Continued on Page 3

First reservation in for Mar. 22 fete

LOS ANGELES — Bob Goka, proprietor of Frank's Nursery & Flowers of West Los Angeles and San Fernando Valley, holds the first \$1,000 (one table) reservation for "American Testimonial" dinner in honor of the five Nikkei member of Congress to be held Mar. 22 at the Bonaventure Hotel, according to Ruth Watanabe and Mitsu Sonoda, co-chair of the dinner.

Reservations at \$100 per person or \$1,000 for a table of ten are being accepted by

Pacific Southwest JACL Regional Office, 125 N. Central Ave., Los Angeles, Ca. 90012 (626-4471).

State landmark registry for all 12 temporary detention centers asked

EL CERRITO, Ca. — An application to register the World War II temporary detention camps for Japanese Americans as California state historical landmarks was recently filed by the Ethnic Minority Cultural Resources Survey—Japanese Americans.

Japanese Americans were confined at these makeshift camps — hurriedly converted fairgrounds, horse racetracks, rodeo grounds and labor camps — until more permanent concentration camps could be built.

Application is an umbrella proposal to cover all 12 of the temporary detention camps. It does not replace or supersede any local effort to have a memorial plaque installed at these sites, according to survey coordinator Isami Arifuku Waugh and application writer Raymond Okamura.

One of the criteria for landmark registration requires the existence of an original structure, but in places like Pine-dale, Tanforan and Walerga, nothing remains from the detention camps. And since it would be difficult to pass individual applications for such sites, a general application in-

cluding all of the temporary detention camps was prepared. If approved, a single registration would be assigned to the 12 sites. Local committees may then apply for a plaque under that registration number.

Wording on any plaque is left to the discretion of each local committee. A separate application with the proposed wording must be submitted in order to receive a state plaque.

The Survey's 21-page application includes:

1—A carefully documented historical section: origins of government discrimination against Asian minorities dating from the 1800s, sequence of events leading to incarceration of 92,785 Californians of Japanese ancestry in 1942.

2—First-hand descriptions of the temporary detention camps from the point of view of the detainee and detainer: physical setup, written orders of Gen. John L. DeWitt.

Despite the barbed wire and guardtowers, the Army called these places *assembly centers*. Cognizant of potential legal challenges if they admitted that Americans were being confined against their will without charges or trial, the Army invented numerous euphemisms to coverup the

facts, it was pointed out.

The application also noted the United States was not alone in the use of deceptive terminology. Japan called their detention camps "assembly centers". Germany variously named theirs "work-study camps", "protective custody camps", "spa", "state retirement home", "self-administration center", "paradise city" and "The East".

The Survey felt that these euphemisms represent gross distortions and must not be perpetuated. Thus, *Temporary Detention Camps for Japanese Americans* was selected as the most accurate name for the historical landmarks. It was chosen in order to differentiate it from the permanent concentration camps at Manzanar and Tule Lake, which, already have historical landmark registry.

The California State Historical Resources Commission is expected to vote on the application within the next two months. Letters of support, should be directed to:

State Historical Resources Commission, P.O. Box 2390, Sacramento, Ca. 95811, 916-445-8006. #

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DEADLINES FOR JACL AWARDS:

Mar. 15: Freshman scholars

SAN FRANCISCO—Students applying for scholarships under the National JACL program are reminded that the deadline for the freshman scholarships is a March 15 postmark to be mailed to the local JACL chapter. Upper division and graduate scholarships are due at National Headquarters in San Francisco, postmarked by April 15.

The undergraduate awards vary from \$250 to \$1,000; graduate awards range from \$250 to \$5,000. Those eligible to apply are JACL members, their children, or any American of Japanese ancestry.

Freshman scholarships will be screened by the local JACL chapter. The local chapter may submit up to three nominees for the national competition. Applicants will be judged using a point system which considers the student's academic record, extracurricular activities, college entrance scores, autobiography, essay, one letter of application and financial need, if applicable.

JACL Scholars are those students who will qualify as an upper division student in the academic year 1980-81.

Asian women conference set

LOS ANGELES—Over 40 workshops with prominent Asian American speakers are scheduled for the three-day conference on concerns of Asian/Pacific women Feb. 29-Mar. 2 at the Univ. of Southern California. Similar programs are being scheduled later in Hawaii and New York and will culminate with a national conference this August in Washington.

Deaths

Takaichi Umezaki, 82, publisher of The New Canadian, Toronto, died Jan. 23 of stroke.

For conference reservations, call 741.7934.

Apr. 15: Upper div. & graduate

(Mr. and Mrs. Takashi Moriuchi of Moorestown, N.J., contributed common stock shares to add another \$10,000 to the trust established in their name for the JACL Scholar award—the first prize among freshman scholarships, the Philadelphia JACL Newsletter noted this past month.)

The Henry and Chiyo Scholarship is being offered for the first time at the graduate level in either research or in the field of creative arts. All graduate applicants are required to submit a paper on the nature of their graduate research program, three letters of recommendation, and cost of graduate education among other requirements. In addition, those applying in the field of creative arts will be evaluated on the basis of awards received and reviews.

Scholarships unique to California residents are those offered by the California First Bank and the Sumitomo Bank of California.

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Sumitomo Bank of California offers two graduate and two undergraduate scholarships with preference given to students in the field of business, including business administration, banking, accounting, economics, and international trade.

Applications for the Abe and Esther Hagiwara Award are also available at the local JACL office. These awards, which are granted on the basis of need and motivation, will be announced in July.

Through the generous support of friends of JACL the national scholarship committee has awarded in excess of \$90,000 since 1946. It will meet in early May to go through the herculean task of selecting the national winners for 1980.

Application forms may be obtained from any JACL chapter, JACL regional office, or from: National JACL Headquarters, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, Ca 94115; (415) 921-5225.

JOB BIAS

Continued from the Front Page

employees are at numerical parity (0.75%) with the civilian labor force, the data also show both groups are under-represented in higher status, higher paid jobs, and that they are concentrated in particular occupational groups."

This past week, Iwama characterized the Chun case as a significant case for Asian Americans because of the unique issue involving "discriminatory compaction". He described this type of discrimination as being particularly applicable to Asian Americans

because of their ability to readily obtain employment but their inability to achieve advancement to higher management positions beyond the middle management level. In higher management positions, so-called Asian stereotypes are perceived as having a lack of leadership abilities.

Chun expressed the hope that other Asian Americans would now be willing to come forward in order to end this type of racial discrimination.

Chun was also assisted in his case by Albert Louie and Jim Kahue of the Asian State Employees Assn., Sacramento. #



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• Author Max Templeman served with Nisei in the WW2 Pacific theater and in occupied Japan. He lives in Hawaii, works for the U.S. Army as chief of its education branch. He majored in Japanese history at Univ. of Hawaii.

• I found it an informative, timely, enlightening account of the conflicts encountered by Japanese Americans during and after the Second World War...

Sen. Daniel K. Inouye

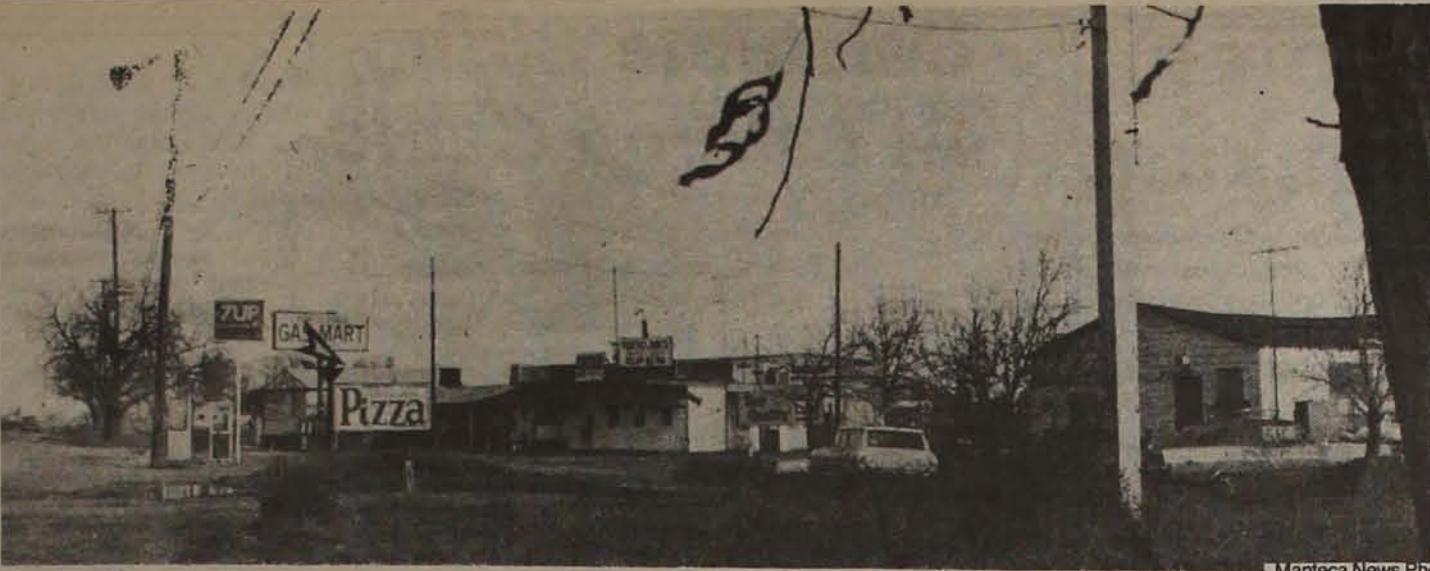
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Still hanging on, Tokyo Joe's Gas Mart in Lathrop, south of Stockton, faces what used to be State Hwy 50, now

Harlan Road and adjacent to Interstate 5, which relocated the farming community's main thoroughfare.

Nisei business keeping up despite Interstate 5

LATHROP, Ca.—Until Interstate 5 came here, Harlan Road (Old Hwy. 50) which parallels the freeway was a traffic-infested two-way main thoroughfare. Joe Takeshita and his wife of 30 years, Miyo, have seen the changes as it affected the area.

In the early days of their business, Joe's Produce, the Takeshitas (who are longtime French Camp JACLers) sold fresh produce from their farm. It was originally thought the area would develop into an industrial center.

Later a banquet hall equipped with a bar and a stage was added at the back of the store. Country musicians used to perform for social occasions. Two and a half years ago, the business was sold in hopes of retiring, but the Takeshitas took back in mid-1979 when the new owner was

unable to pay property taxes and neglected the business.

"We were the first to put up business of this kind in Lathrop," Takeshita told the Manteca News. Despite I-5 relocating businesses to the other side, his business has survived quite well as evidenced by the many regular customers fre-

quenting his store (named "Tokyo Joe's") daily—especially into the restaurant and in the summertime when all the farmers and workers come.

The sign, Tokyo Joe's Gas Mart, remains unchanged. Takeshita appears unperturbed about being located

away from the center of Lathrop's business scene. For him, it is a singular pride to come down in the area's history known as one of its pioneer business establishments, the Manteca News commented.

The Takeshitas have a married daughter and two grandchildren living nearby. #

DINNER

Continued from Front Page

at the Bonaventure Hotel to honor all five Nikkei members of Congress: Senators Daniel Inouye, Spark Matsunaga, S.I. Hayakawa, Congressmen Norman Mineta and Robert Matsui, among the principal sponsors of the legislation to seek creation of a fact-finding commission.

The unique and unprecedented testimonial will mark the first time in which all five Nikkei federal legislators will have come together for a sin-

gular event. It will also be the first time when a major tribute of this magnitude will be staged for them.

Karl Nobuyuki, National JACL executive director, and John Tateishi, chairman of the National Committee for Redress, noted that the campaign to seek creation of a commission will require a budget of about \$220,000 to successfully wage the effort. The testimonial dinner will serve to benefit the initial phases of the legislative program.

Honorary co-chairs for "An American Testimonial" are

Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley and Issei leader Katsuma Mukaeda.

Dinner co-chairs Sonoda and Watanabe indicated response from the local community has been encouraging.

● Fine Arts

Noted Seattle sculptor George Tsutakawa presented a small bronze piece as a gift of the Okayama Club to the Gov. Shiro Nagano of Okayama Prefecture in acknowledgement of prefectural awards presented to Okayama-born Seattle residents more than age 80 last year. Tsutakawa, 69, while Seattle born, was raised in Okayama and is known for his large bronze fountain sculptures in the Pacific Northwest.

Tea Garden may charge

SAN FRANCISCO—Visitors of the Japanese Tea Garden at Golden Gate Park may be charged a 50-cent admission fee to aid in the maintenance of the city's parks. But among those in opposition is George Hagiwara, grandson of the garden's founder:

"The park shouldn't have to charge for every little thing."

Jack Hirose, present garden concessionaire, said, "If the Rec-Park Commission gets too greedy, it would kill the golden goose."

Hirose's lease calls for a

30% return of gross receipts from the outdoor tea room and gift shop that netted the concession fund \$220,000 last year, according to San Francisco Examiner reporter Alan Cline.

Consensus of recent visitors indicated out-of-towners wouldn't mind the fee but the idea angers the locals. Last year over 3,000,000 visited the tea garden, installed by Makoto Hagiwara for the 1894 California Midwinter Exposition.

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National JACL President

ELLEN ENDO

Pacific Citizen Board Chairperson

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Young Pioneers

Beijing (Peking) was frozen solid. We were about to enter Tien T'ang, Temple of Heaven, when a group of young children caught our eyes. They were standing in neat rows. One of them held a red flag with yellow stars at the center. A woman was speaking to them in an authoritative voice. They looked like Cub Scouts.

They were the Young Pioneers, ages 6 to 12 years. I learned that they are the gifted and the high achievers. China's future is in their hands.

One of the unique roles they play is to aid the low achievers in their classes. On a personal one-to-one basis they make it possible for their classmates to keep up

with them. At this tender age they are learning to instruct and to offer aid to others less gifted than themselves. To these children, ability is not to show off but an opportunity to help others.

Back at the Beijing Hotel over a cup of coffee at the lounge table, I discussed this with a school teacher from Minneapolis. Beijing was their first stop on the China tour.

"We have something similar, but it doesn't begin until the 5th grade." According to her it was not a common practice in the United States.

China is a motivated and an innovative society. It is a country with immeasurable talent. Most of all it has the one ingredient for success—discipline. #



YE EDITOR'S DESK: Harry Honda

Pinch-hitting for Redress John

Riverside, Ca.

John Tateishi, who spends weekends away from his Marin County home enkindling the spark for S 1647 and HR 5499—the JACL bills for creating a presidential commission to study the legality of the relocation and internment of American citizens during World War II, delivered the keynote address here at Riverside JACL's installation dinner on the UC Riverside campus. We haven't counted the number of weekends spent for the cause, but his appearance here was close to the PC Office (about 100 km) at this point in time ... the last time we ventured this far was under similar circumstances: as a passenger in the then regional director Glen Isomoto's car to hear another Sansei spellbinder, the newly appointed Karl Nobuyuki, National JACL executive director.

In lieu of Tateishi's column which the Postal Service failed to deliver on time, let me incorporate a few notes from his talk:

1—The commission approach would address first the fundamental issue—the constitutionality or legality of incarceration of American citizens without trial or due process because the President, as commander-in-chief, chooses to exercise his authority to maintain national security. (Another president used the same reasoning and had to resign, if you remember.)

2—The educational fall-out of the commission investigating and hearing from people about the pro & con, the hysteria and morality (the infernal way human feelings can numb the conscience shows how fragile individual rights are) of the causes leading to removal and detention can be what Sputnik did to the space age, maybe ... the public and the members of Congress need to be educated as well before any kind of reparation is in order.

3—The American tragedy of the 20th century is the 1942 Evacuation of Japanese Americans: (a) The President signed Executive Order 9066. (b) The Congress made it law with PL 77-503, imposing a \$5,000 penalty on anyone violating EO 9066. (c) And the Supreme Court upheld EO 9066 as proper use of the President's exercise of military power, despite the eloquent dissent of Justice Jackson that it "lies about like a loaded weapon" [Korematsu].

4—While the Sansei may be poor in pronouncing Japanese names and have lost touch with cultural heritage of the Issei and



DOWN TO EARTH: Karl Nobuyuki

"yak-ied". I was impressed with the work put into the Yaki by Kiyo Fukumoto and his Pan Asian chapter. Sandy Kawasaki was the dinner chair who left me feeling excited that so many people who rarely attend JACL functions came along with longtime supporters. Somehow, the advance work of the chapter was effective enough to give me the opportunity to meet with friends and acquaintances whom I haven't seen in years ... I had a great time and some pure fun to boot!!

Nisei because of the Evacuation camps, the Sansei fervor in search of identity through redress is "our way of recognizing the worth of the Nisei (and Issei) ... and vindicating them".

No telling how the commission will decide on remedies for the wrong of 1942, but it will have ample time to consider whatever proposals brought before the 15-member panel as it conducts hearings in at least 10 cities ... after S 1647/HR 5499 passes and is signed. Tateishi's talk details what transpired at the 1978 Salt Lake convention, touches upon the realistic mood of Congress trying to fight inflation, etc.

I hope this suffices for the redress column we were expecting.

While the Japanese community of Riverside has a long and illustrious history (Ulysses Shinsei Kaneko living in nearby Redlands became California's first naturalized Issei in 1896; and then settled in Riverside the following year, started a restaurant, raised a family, worked as auditor for the city and also served on the county grand jury), its JACL origins are of recent vintage: 1968. Yet its leadership has been as varied—Nikkei and non-Nikkei, men and women, Nisei and now Sansei (though in this case it's also father & son)—as a chapter with an older track record.

New Riverside president Doug Urata is the son of Jim Urata, the 1972 president. Such are the signs that the Nisei are passing the baton of responsibility to the Sansei—unlike 1942 when the baton was thrust upon the Nisei when the FBI had corraled the Issei leadership. #

Nobu-'Yaki': a Rebuttal

Torrance, Ca.

Of course since the event was in Southern California, some of the area's wierdests participated in the Yaki. Their role? Now get this—"chefs". Everyone, of course, knew that none of these so-called chefs could even toast a marshmallow. (Laughter.) This line-up of the world's worst chefs consisted of: Bob Takasugi, an undecisive judge; Kiyoshi Sonoda, a pain-loving dentist; Mike Ishikawa, L.A. County's negative action officer; Kerry Doi, an unemployed manpower administrator; Paul Bannai, California's first Nisei assemblyman, and thanks to Paul, maybe our last; Helen Kawagoe, our frustrated city clerk; John Saito, PSWDC regional director who is still trying to figure out what PSWDC stands for; JACL's own national treasurer George Kodama, a CPA who still hasn't memorized his multiplication tables; and Mas Fukai, whom most people know as a politician, but he still can't figure out on how to spell it.

Since the Pan Asian chapter couldn't make up their minds, they went with two masters of ceremonies. As it turned out, both selections were poor. Yuki Shimoda kept falling out of his chair ... and Ron Wakabayashi. Well, Ron was given a tube of Preparation H so he would clean-up his lines. (Rolling laughter please!) It was definitely a night to remember.

But if it weren't enough that the poor and defenseless JACL director was being viciously attacked by sadistical chefs, even the JACL chapters got into the act (So, what else is new?). Mack Yamaguchi, making a comeback (Didn't anyone tell him to stay away?) to the Pasadena JACL, added his penny's worth to the stew. He repeatedly apologized to the audience, then he presented me with a card, congratulating me on my retirement from JACL. (According to the applause meter, that got the most.) Mack didn't stop there. He next presented me with a gift consisting of an undergarment known to be used only by those whose physical condition is not sufficient to support the lower appendages of the anatomy ... and the tube of Preparation H. I wonder who encouraged him to return (hissing).

It was a night to remember. Even the entertainment had something to add ... though it wasn't much. Singer Butch Kasahara couldn't hold a note and the band, "The International Blend", couldn't hold one. (Foot-stomping laughter.) Yes, the evening a miserable flop! (raised eyebrows). And if it weren't for the opportunity I had to dance with the line-up of Southern California's most attractive beauties (Eat your heart out, fellas.), I would have fallen asleep from the outset. What JACL staff have to go through ...

All in all, the Pan Asian Chapter's "YAKI" was tremendous. Seeing so many people gather just for laughs was fantastic. The chapter and all the folks who put in their time and energy should be commended. The chapter proved again that JACL can bring people together for a good time. It can draw Sansei and Nisei to the same event and leave people feeling good. I can't help but remember what the late George Inagaki had said: "Karl ... remember, all work and no fun ain't no good."

George was right and his spirit lives on. #

35 Years Ago

FEB. 10, 1945

Jan. 30—Long Beach, YWCA welcomes returning evacuees.

Jan. 31—Rev H Barnabas Terasawa, 88, first Episcopalian priest ordained in Japan (1887, Osaka), dies at Topaz, Utah.

Feb. 1—Wyoming bill denies evacuees hunting-fishing licenses.

Feb. 2—Office of War Information's Japanese section moved back from Denver to San Francisco.

Feb. 4—Four men face arson charges for attempted dynamiting Sumio Doi farm in Placer County.

Feb. 5—Hood River Post defies American Legion national commander by refusing to replace

names of Nisei GIs to county honor roll.

Feb. 6—Dr Selig Shevin resigns staff of Jackson Park Hospital (Chicago), which refused to treat Nisei patient (Toyoko Murayama, 19).

Feb. 6—Nisei nurse (Masako Takayoshi) returns from Denver to her prewar position as supervisor of surgical nursing at Harborview Hospital, Seattle; hospital denies Hearst story of other nurses in protest.

Feb. 7—JACL HQ acknowledges \$13,800 received from 15 prewar JACL chapter treasuries to reopen west coast JACL offices to assist returning evacuees.

FROM HAPPY VALLEY: Sachi Seko

Mobilize the Middle-Aged Men

Salt Lake City:

There was only one war for my generation. Time is measured by it. Before the war, during the war, after the war. Although Korea and Vietnam are more recent entries on the bloody ledger, we refer to World War II as being, "the war". It was supposed to have been the war to end all wars.

Among the civilized universal constituency, it is believed that war is an evil and destructive human creation. And yet, each generation seems destined to know some major conflict that will be, "the war", to them. It is almost certain that draft registration for men between the ages of 18 and 26 will be reinstated shortly. And another young generation will be prepared for combat.

It is the young who are chosen, often forced, to defend the commitments of the old. They will be sacrificed. It reminds me of a study on bears. Mature males will kill young cubs if an area becomes too small for comfortable survival for both. The study dealt with primitive animals.

They say the young are more resilient, capable of quick adjustment. But I have never known a youth who returned from war the same. We have a friend from our war who fears to sleep. When he does, he wakes scream-

ing from dreams of hell and fire. The war will never end for him.

I remember, too, the Vietnam veteran who visited us last spring. He was a former officer. From all outward appearances, he had made a successful adjustment to civilian life. Until talk got around to Vietnam. Abruptly, he held an imaginary gun in his hand and shot and killed the enemy again. His lunatic laugh was a shard in the shocked silence.

Deep, psychic wounds are concealed by superficial scabs and sobs are strangled in shouts and laughter. I have yet to hear a story of self-valor from a combat man. The drugstore soldiers are the ones who weave heroic tales of war.

There is sometimes a romantic notion about war among those who escaped it. The lust for this tryst with fate resides often among the middle-aged, the most powerful segment of our population in terms of wealth and voice. Perhaps it is they who should be conscripted. Every man over 50 who has not served his country should be given his last opportunity. It should be a universal condition for war. And maybe the purge of the poison can begin. #



FROM THE FRYING PAN: Bill Hosokawa

Internationally, Japan's Yes and No

Denver, Colo.

For some time I have been wondering why Japan, one of the world's great industrial powers, fails to take a more active role in international politics.

Japanese businessmen and Japanese products have spread out from the crowded little islands to the most distant lands of our globe. To supply their factories, Japanese traders travel to the furthest reaches in search of petroleum, coal, minerals, timber, foodstuffs they can buy. In business they make their presence felt everywhere.

But when was the last time Japan took a diplomatic initiative or came up with an innovative proposal in relations among nations? I cannot remember when anything like that happened. Japan has been content to remain largely in the shadow of the United States, usually (although not always) following and supporting the American lead, which is not always a wise course these days.

Why must it be this way? One reason, of course, is that Japan is without military muscle and rather prefers it that way. Still, there are only two nations of any military consequence these days and lack of divisions or atomic weapons are no reason for failure to speak up on political issues. There must be other, more basic reasons.

An insight into some of them was provided recently

from my friend Yukio Matsuyama, an editorial writer for the Asahi newspapers. He sent me a copy of a talk he had made to visiting American congressmen in Tokyo early this year.

"The leadership in Japan is quite different from that in most Western democracies," he said. "In order to attain the highest post in Japanese society, the flair for harmony, cooperation, loyalty and patience are more important than brilliance, intelligence, decisiveness or aggressiveness."

"Being a protege of and getting the favor of some influential old man is a must for promotion or success even in the political field. If Mr. Carter were a Japanese, he couldn't have jumped from the governorship of a prefecture to the presidency of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) in one step."

"How long a Japanese leader can survive depends more on having few opponents than many ardent supporters. Prime Minister Ohira is a typical product of the Japanese culture. He is very tough, patient and skilled in defense and backstage maneuvering but he does not like challenge or confrontation. He intentionally avoids being distinguished, provocative and stimulating as a leader."

"In Japan, being passive and slow to act is by no means a demerit. Rather, these characteristics are often regarded as the secret for success in obtaining consensus. I

believe it is these characteristics of Japanese politics that have been bringing tragedy to Japan internationally and domestically... To Americans, the LDP government must seem to be interested only in patchwork or make-shift policies brought about as a result of outside pressures."

Despite the dynamic nature of Japanese society, Matsuyama describes his country as a land of the status quo. "Having lived in the U.S. for a long time," he says, "I wondered why the Japanese are satisfied with such tiny houses, narrow roads and poor sewage systems. The indication is they prefer stability to drastic change. Japan has no class problems, no racial problems and the people seem to want the greatest happiness for the greatest number in terms of material riches and political freedom."

Under these conditions, can Japan achieve greatness or world leadership in other than a commercial and economic sense? Many young Japanese like Matsuyama think not. Whether it bothers them or not, I don't know. But perhaps most of their fellow citizens really don't care for greatness so long as there is plenty of the good stuff to go around.

NISEI IN JAPAN: Barry T. Saiki

New Japan Look at the Nisei

Tokyo

The year 1980 may be a banner year as far as Japan's coverage of the Nikkei are concerned. In 1979, the Japanese media suddenly realized that information here about the role of Japanese emigrants abroad was inadequate.

Preliminary research showed that the public here was mostly unaware of the history of Japanese migration to Hawaii, to the U.S. mainland or about the experiences they had encountered.

One major TV producer last year pictorialized the story of the Japanese emigrants to Brazil. It covered the years of survival as the settlers toiled on virginal but malaria-infested lands until some eventually

achieved success as entrepreneurs in Sao Paulo.

NHK presented *Amerika Monogatari* or the "American Story", a serial running four segments of 90 minutes each. It portrayed the lives of three generations of Japanese immigrants, from the early years in Hawaii, the move of one branch to California, and subsequent periods of discrimination, the Pearl Harbor hysteria, internment and resettlement. The program was slightly overdramatic in that one family endured all the trials, beating, chicanery, suicide and other tribulations — a composite of what happened to a number of Nikkei including Jim Yoshida-types. In spite of its dramatic accent

and lack of adequate Nisei critique before it was filmed, it was excellent.

This year, NHK is working on two more TV programs. One (*Nisei Monogatari*) will deal more closely with the prewar and wartime periods to include coverage of the relocation centers. The other will feature the Nisei GIs who served in the Pacific and the Occupation. To ensure authenticity, the producer has been and will be contacting numerous Nisei with war experiences in both Hawaii and the West Coast during early 1980. These are scheduled for completion in the fall.

Toyoko Yamazaki, currently the best read of the Japa-

nese women novelists, is planning a serial about the Nikkei in the *Shukan Shincho*, the most popular of the Japanese weekly magazines. Through interviews of Nisei and further research, her work should prove to be both accurate and interesting. As a name writer, whatever she writes will reach a vast spectrum of the Japanese public.

Since both NHK and *Shukan Shincho* are contacting many Nisei here in Japan and abroad, there is reason to believe that a fairly authentic Nikkei story will reach the Japanese audience.

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Chapter Pulse

● Eden Township

The Eden Township JAYS will host the DYC quarterly meeting Feb. 23-24 at Eden Japanese Community Center. Bruce Shimizu, national youth director, will discuss the revisions to the JAYS constitution.

Dr. Clifford Uyeda, National JACL president, will be included in a panel discussion, according to James Yamada (415-278-6145) for registration and details.

● Fremont

Fremont JACL recently installed 1980 board of directors at Lum Yuen in Fremont with John Tateishi as guest speaker. Serving the chapter as president will be Ted Inouye, employee of U.S. Geological Survey, who also led the chapter in 1968-69 and 1971.

● Houston

Two key members of the JACL redress committee, chairperson John Tateishi of Marin County JACL and fund campaign chair Minoru Yasui of Mile-Hi JACL will be present for the Mountain Plains District Council winter session being hosted by Houston JACL at the Stouffer's Hotel Feb. 22-24.

Bill Hosokawa of the Denver Post will be the Saturday banquet keynote speaker. J.D. Hokoyama, associate national director, will be among the principals during the opening day dinner Feb. 22. For reservations or information, call:

Paul Shinkawa, coordinator (512) 425-5142 off, 748-3479 res.

● Marin County

Local applicants for National JACL scholarships are reminded Mar. 15 is the deadline. Forms are obtainable from Don Nakahata, 148 Woodbine Dr., Mill Valley, Ca 94941.

● Milwaukee

Ron Ikejiri, Washington JACL representative, is scheduled as keynote speaker at the Milwaukee JACL inaugural Feb. 17, 4 p.m., at the Country Gardens Restaurant.

Andy Mayeshiba, the 1980 chapter president, is succeeding Ed Jonokuchi, who served for two years.

Calendar

* non-JACL event

● FEB. 15 (Friday)

*San Francisco—Asn Amer Dance Coll benefit dance, Christ United Church, 1700 Sutter St. 8pm.

● FEB. 16 (Saturday)

*Santa Barbara—Inst dnr, Montecito Country Club

*Orange County—Inst dnr, Sheraton Anaheim Motor Hotel, 6:30pm; Min Yasui, spkr.

*Alameda—Noodle Night, Buddhist Church

*Los Angeles—Korean Youth Ctr show: Evening with Johnny Yune, Scottish Rite Aud, 8pm.

*Los Angeles—Oriental Builders Assn dnr, World Trade Ctr's Intl Club, 6:30pm.

● FEB. 17 (Sunday)

*PSWDC/Orange County—Qtrly sess, Sheraton Anaheim Motor Hotel, 8:30am-4pm.

*Dayton—Gen mtg, Japan flt reunion, Citizens Fed Bank Bldg, 2pm.

*Milwaukee—Inst dnr, Country Gardens Restaurant, 4pm.

*West Los Angeles—Travel mtg, Felicia Mahood Ctr, 11228 Sta Monica Blvd, 1pm.

● FEB. 18 (Monday)

*Stockton—March Fong Eu exhibit: Japanese American Experience in Calif, (thru Mar 7), Univ of Pacific.

● FEB. 20 (Wednesday)

*San Mateo—Mtg, Sturge Presbyterian Church, 8pm.

● FEB. 22 (Friday)

*Chicago—Meet Karl Nobuyuki, JACL Office

*MPDC/Houston—Winter mtg (3da), Stouffer's Greenway, Fri: welcome dnr & prog, 7pm, John Tateishi, Min Yasui, J D Hokoyama, spkrs; Sat: mtg, 9am; luncheon, 12n; dist workshop, 1pm; Port of Houston tour, 2-5pm; banq, 7:30pm, Bill Hosokawa, spkr; Sun: NASA Johnson Spacecraft Ctr tour.

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An exchange of letters to the Tribune

CHICAGO—On Jan. 29, Milan G. Weber's letter to the Tribune was published with an AP photo of Camp Manzanar under construction. Here is that letter, followed by a reply from Chicago JACL president John Tani, a copy of which is included below.

The 120,000 Japanese-Americans who were interned probably did have some of their constitutional rights interfered with, but not more so than their 15 million American protectors who were shipped worldwide. In my view, the decision to intern should not be taken as an abridgement of constitutional rights, but rather as an act for the good of the war effort, as well as for the protection of the very ones who are now seeking redress. I see no reason for viewing the internment other than as an important step toward winning a tragic war.

MILAN G. WEBER

To The Tribune:

Mr. Milan Weber in his sincere defense of the World War II internment of Japanese Americans as printed in the Jan. 29, 1980 Tribune overlooks several essential issues. The imprisonment of 120,000 Americans—the majority of whom were American citizens—without criminal charge and singled out solely on the basis of ancestry was an act of racism fueled by economic motives. It was not, as Mr. Weber suggests, a necessary maneuver for reasons of national security or the protection of the Japanese Americans themselves.

The central issue which needs to be clarified is whether immigrants and their American-born offspring should be held liable for the acts of their homeland's government. The German Americans and Italian Americans were not held responsible for the Nazi atrocities nor viewed with suspicion as to their loyalties. Then why should Japanese Americans who had made the United States their home be treated differently?

The reason seems to have been racial and economic. The physical and cultural differences of many immigrant groups have generated fear, suspicion, and ridicule in the United States. In the case of the Japanese Americans prior to World War II, the racism produced discriminatory legislation on both the national and local levels. The immigrants were denied naturalized citizenship until 1952, immigration to the US was completely cut off, and West Coast states made it illegal for immigrants to own land. The intensity of the prejudice increased as the industrious Japanese Americans prospered through fishing and agricultural endeavors. The racism was there, and the war was merely an excuse to take the final step of removing all the Americans of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast.

The primary rationale for the evacuation of Japanese Americans was national security; however, an examination of the facts does not justify this concern. First, during the years preceding World War II, the FBI had kept a close surveillance of the Japanese Americans on the West Coast and reported to the Justice Department and the President that the Japanese Americans appeared to be totally loyal to the United States. Second, there was not a single act of sabotage by Japanese Americans in the United States or Hawaii any time during the war. Third, the most vulnerable area to sabotage was Hawaii, and yet the Hawaiians were not interned. Fourth, if there were a threat to the national security on the West Coast, the area would have been placed under martial law. Fifth, there were no exceptions made to the evacuation. It is hard to imagine that the national security was threatened by babies and children in foster and adopted homes, by the elderly and sick in hospitals, or by World War I veterans. Finally, the internment occurred many months after the Pearl Harbor attack and at a time when the likelihood of an invasion was almost completely diminished.

Mr. Weber offers a second reason for the internment—the protection of the Japanese Americans themselves. It is true that there were cases of violence against the Japanese Americans, but these incidents were not widespread. Due to the immigration laws, most of the Japanese Americans had been in the United States for decades, establishing themselves in communities, and forming close friendships with non-Japanese. In each family's surroundings, the Japanese Americans were relatively secure. Few, if any, Japanese Americans wanted to be uprooted and "taken to safety."

War generated hardships and tragedies for almost everyone. The Japanese Americans were proud to be Americans; indeed, it was a principle of honor to be loyal to their new homeland. In 1942, they were faced with the choice of cooperating with the US government in an act totally alien to the American way of life which they had assimilated or of standing up for their rights as Americans and risk further condemnation. The Japanese Americans were anxi-

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ous to bear the burden of the war effort shoulder to shoulder with their American brothers (and sisters); in fact, the all-Japanese American 442nd Regiment was the most decorated regiment during the entire war, and many Japanese Americans were secretly conscripted to study Japanese in order to translate intercepted messages which is estimated to have shortened the war in the Pacific by at least one year. While all other Americans were honored for their sacrifices, the Japanese Americans were forced into humiliation.

I agree with Mr. Weber that it is now easier to evaluate the facts than it was amidst rumors and war hysteria. In that light, perhaps it is even possible to understand the attitudes of the government, the American people, and the Japanese Americans; however, that does not justify the evacuation. The imprisonment of Japanese Americans in concentration camps was a disgraceful episode in American history. The Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) is supporting a bill now in Congress which would establish a commission to study the facts of the internment of Japanese Americans.

Contrary to Mr. Weber's opinion, it was not the Japanese Americans who needed to be "tested as real Americans," rather it was the Constitution and the American public who were "tested" in the face of crisis. They failed.

JOHN TANI

Chicago JACL president

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Chapter Pulse

Philadelphia

Washington JACL representative Ron Ikejiri was guest speaker at the Philadelphia JACL election meeting Feb. 8 at Germantown Friends School. Kaz Horita chaired the meeting, which also including the showing some rare vintage government films on the 1942 evacuation.

The chapter installation dinner-dance is slated for Saturday, Mar. 29, with Rep. Robert Matsui as keynote speaker. Locale in King of Prussia is to be announced. On the dinner committee are:

Chiyo Koiwai, Yuri Moriuchi, Betty and Sim Endo, Eiko and Bunji Ikeda, Teresa Maebori, Hiroshi and Grayce Ueyehara (696-6219).

The Jan. 5 New Year celebration had to be cancelled due to a heavy snowfall the previous day. Preparations for at least 90 people were made by the committee headed by Chiyo Koiwai.

Seattle

Seattle JACL installed its 1980 officers Feb. 1 at Bush Garden. Charles Kato and Ben Nakagawa share the presidency as co-presidents, a situation similar to a prewar cabinet when three persons shared the executive helm.

Kato, a civil engineer with HEW, also co-chairs the Japanese Cultural Center, a past president of University Students Club (SYN-KOA), and president of the Asian Engineers and Technical Assn. He assisted in the concept and structuring of the Seattle redress program.

Nakagawa, a past chapter president, co-chaired the PNWDC anti-discrimination committee and has been long active on the chapter board. Ben is a principal of an elementary school in the Seattle School District.

Outgoing president was Mich Matsudaira, now a haberdasher,

but well known as the first executive director for the Governor's Commission on Asian American Affairs.

1980 Officers

COLUMBIA BASIN JACL
Dr. Richard Doi, pres; Edward M. Yamamoto, pres-elect, memb vp; Makiko Doi, vp; Robert Schaden, treas; Eileen Garcia, rec sec; George Fukukai, del, 1000 Club; Susan Schaden, hist.

SEATTLE JACL
Charles Kato, Ben Nakagawa, co-pres; Frank Fujii, 1st vp; Eira Nagaoka, 2d vp; Kathryn Bannai, 3d vp; Eileen Takeuchi, 4th vp; Rod Matsuno, treas; Nobie Chan, rec sec; Ruth Yoneyama Woo, cor sec; Ken Nakano, hist; Mich Matsudaira, del; bd of dir—Gp I: Cherry Kinoshita, Aki Kurose, Minoru Masuda, John Matsumoto, Henry Miyatake, Sam Shoji, John Takizawa; Gp II: Frank Abe, Rita Elway, Mich Fujii, David Ishii, Jan Kumasaka, Akemi Matsumoto, Arlene Oki; Gp III: Joanne Fujita, Sandy Fujita, Mark Kinomoto, Ruthann Kurose, Ronald Mamiya, Jerry Nagai, Patti Shimomura.

MIS/S. Cal. to show war crimes trial

GARDENA, Ca.—The MIS of Southern California New Year's dinner Feb. 23, 6:30 p.m., at the Kawafuku here will feature the videotape showing of the Tokyo War Crimes Trial.

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Sansei wins top backgammon prize

LAS VEGAS, Nev.—Sansei truck driver Wayne Araki of Vancouver, B.C., won the third annual Plimpton Cup backgammon championship here and \$150,000 in prize money. He won more after it was converted to Canadian dollars.

The 24-year-old champion beat out nine others in the amateur contest held at the Dunes Hotel in December. #

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SPARTAN BEAT: Mas Manbo

Ancient Japanese Folktale

Tokyo

There's nothing like starting off the year right and I have been doing so by taking in a regular program for kiddies called "Manga Nihon Mukashi Banashi" or Old Japanese Tales in Cartoons on Channel 6.

And what's an old guy past mid-60 doing watching cartoons for youngsters on TV?

PC PEOPLE

Business

Shinji Mizuchi, 45, of Tokyo succeeds **Tatsuo Suzuki**, 45, as treasurer of California First Bank, San Francisco. Mizuchi was also named sr. v.p. and director and has been with the parent firm, the Bank of Tokyo, Ltd., for the past five years. **Fumitoshi Miki**, 46, recently named general manager of the Bank of Tokyo, Ltd., San Francisco Agency, was elected a director of California First Bank.

Mitsubishi Electric Corp. has formed Melco Sales, Inc., Irvine, Ca., with **M. Mizuno** as president. The new subsidiary hopes to double its current color TV production through its new facility as well as component sound systems.

Sports

Los Angeles City College athletic director **Hayward Nishioka** was elevated to 6th-dan, making him at 37 among the younger men in the U.S. allowed to wear the red-&-white belt.

Well, it so happened that my wife had insisted some time ago that I could learn something by seeing this little half-hour program tucked in at 7 p.m. every Saturday. And I'll admit that it has been really educational.

Each show has two tales. The program for the first Saturday of 1980 featured *Fukunozumi* (Good Luck Rat) and *Nanafukujin* (Seven Deities of Fortune). The Seven Deities, I learned later, are Daikoku, Hotei, Ebisu, Benzaiten, Bishamon, Jurojin and Fukurokuju. Only Ebisu is really Japanese; the rest are of India or China origin.

The Saturday before, one of the tales was about *Bimbogami*, the God of Poverty who has been around a long time but I never knew it.

In the weekly stories, the supply of which seems endless, the poor, honest and generous folks invariably are rewarded and the bad, greedy types get their just deserts.

Besides gods, one can expect *oni* (demons), *tanuki* (badgers), *kitsune* (foxes) and *ryu* (dragons) to appear but sometimes the program comes up with the wholly unexpected. Like the delightful tale the other Saturday about the *Yome-san* (or bride) who had one glaring fault—when she broke wind, it was disas-

trous.

"Break wind" is a clumsy term, but even in these days when anything goes I balk at putting down on paper that monosyllabic Anglo-Saxon word for the same thing. In Japanese, however, there is no vulgarity associated with either "*he*" or "*onara*", take your choice.

Coming back to the story of the *Yome-san*, she was a hard-working gal but when she stepped outside to break wind, growing plants would be uprooted and sent flying by the blast.

Her husband thinks this ill wind will never do anyone any good and decides he'll have to send her back home to the

inaka.

Starting out on the sad journey, the pair come upon a sailboat loaded with rice, hopelessly stalled because of the lack of wind. The bride soon comes to the rescue. She turns around, bends over and boom! The boat is sent flying on its way. For this, the couple get a windfall of two bales of rice.

Trekking further on, the two approach a man vainly trying to pick the unreachable fruit on his big persimmon tree. No problem for the *Yome-san*. Boom! And all the persimmons are blown down. For this, the grateful man gives the pair his horse.

By this time the husband is thinking, "Hey, this gal is all right" and the two thus retrace their steps. The final scene shows a special room built for the wife at the farmhouse, shaken by a blast but standing

firm.

And thus it was that the word, *heya*, meaning "room", was born, the narrator of the

story explains. Pure malarky, of course, but it added an extra laugh to the usual little tale.

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2 APRIL 5 - APRIL 26	(unconfirmed) Los Angeles
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3 MAY 12-JUNE 2	(JAL) Los Angeles
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4 JUNE 16 - JULY 7	(unconfirmed) Los Angeles
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5 JUNE 19 - JULY 10	(JAL) San Francisco
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6 JUNE 21 - JULY 13	(unconfirmed) Los Angeles
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7 JUNE 22 - JULY 13	(JAL) San Francisco
Chicago JACL: Dr Frank Sakamoto, 5423 N Clark St, Chicago 60640	
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8 JUNE 23 - JULY 15	(unconfirmed) Los Angeles
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9 JULY 12 - AUG. 9	(JAL) Los Angeles
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10 AUG. 6 - AUG. 27	(JAL) San Francisco
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11 SEPT. 27 - OCT. 18	(unconfirmed) Los Angeles
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12 OCT. 2-OCT. 23	(JAL) San Francisco
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15 OCT. 6 - OCT. 30	(JAL) San Francisco
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16 OCT. 6-29/OCT. 7-30	(JAL) Los Angeles
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