

## Chol Soo Lee near personal freedom

By K.W. LEE  
Editor, Koreatown

SACRAMENTO, Ca.—Death-row inmate Chol Soo Lee's seven-year nightmare in the "Alice in Chinatown" murder case is over.

The 27-year-old Korean immigrant — on San Quentin death-row for a crime he says he didn't commit — has taken one giant step toward the freedom that for so long has eluded him.

Supporters of Lee's battle for life and a new trial were elated, as the 3rd District Court of Appeal in Sacramento unanimously upheld on March 21 a Sacramento judge's release order wiping out Lee's 1974 San Francisco Chinatown murder conviction.

The Appeal Court's ruling killed the death penalty hanging over Lee for the 1977 prison-yard slaying of a neo-Nazi fellow inmate while Lee was serving a life sentence at Deuel state prison for what has come to be known as the "Alice in Chinatown" murder.

The immigrant, then 20, was arrested on June 7, 1973 for the street-corner slaying of gangland figure Yip Yee Tak in San Francisco four days earlier. Because of the surrealistic circumstances surrounding the Tak murder and Lee's subsequent arrest and 1974 conviction, the Sacramento Union's 1978 investigative series depicted the case as that of an "Alice in Chinatown."

On Jan. 19, 1979, Sacramento Superior Court Judge Lawrence K. Karlton — now a federal judge — ordered Lee's release on a

writ of habeas corpus, on the grounds that the prosecution failed to provide material evidence to Lee's attorney in his 1974 trial in Sacramento that could have altered the outcome of that trial.

Subsequently, however, the death-penalty prison murder trial was forced on the defendant in San Joaquin County Superior Court, although his Chinatown conviction — the very basis for his death penalty — had been just overturned by Karlton. Lee claimed self defense in the prison killing case.

The San Joaquin County prosecution — trying Lee on the prison case — immediately appealed the Karlton ruling.

And the San Joaquin County jury who condemned Lee to death for the prison killing wasn't aware of the Karlton order. The jury's ignorance of the release order was enforced by the San Joaquin trial judge who sternly forbade Lee's defense lawyers from disclosing that crucial fact to the jurors.

Karlton ruled the prosecution had withheld information about forgotten eyewitness Steven Morris from Lee's Sacramento trial attorneys. In appealing his ruling, the prosecution attacked Morris's credibility.

During the habeas corpus hearing, Morris was located by the defense team, and Morris emerged after more than five years to testify that the man he saw shoot Tak was not Lee but a Chinese youth Morris had encountered in a minor Chinatown car accident minutes earlier.

Morris, 26, told Karlton that he twice told his story to San Francisco homicide detective, but that he was not asked to appear at the lineup where Lee was identified by three other white tourists as the gunman, or testify at Lee's 1974 trial.

The prosecution contended that Morris told a story filled with discrepancies that can't be believed in light of the physical evidence in the case.

## Spokane forum generates education



**SPOKANE FORUM**—Panelists at the Spokane forum, "Japanese America: Contemporary Perspectives on the Internment", addressing some 250 at Gonzaga University are (from left) Frank Conklin, professor of constitutional law, Gonzaga; Gordon Hirabayashi, professor of sociology, Univ. of Alberta; playwright Frank Chin, now of UC Santa Barbara; Dr. Louis Kurahara, surgeon, VA Hospital, Spokane; and Sam Nakagawa, member, Wash. State Commission for Asian American Affairs.

By MARIE KURIHARA  
Special to Pacific Citizen

SPOKANE, Wa. — Some 250 concerned people attended an educational forum Mar. 1 at Gonzaga University's Hughes Auditorium on "Japanese America: Contemporary Perspectives on the Internment". It was the second in a series being held in the state. Also on exhibit were material and pictures of the War Relocation Authority camps and WW2 Evacuation.

Similar to the format of the Seattle forum (see Feb. 8 PC), educators, writers, historians and Japanese Americans discussed their personal experience before and after the Evacuation.

"Japanese America" was revealed in literature through senryu poetry of Tule Lake, editorials from camp newspapers and works of Nisei authors John Okada, Toshio Mori and Monica Sone by Lonny Kaneko, English teacher at Seattle's Highline Community College; Lawson Inada, poet and English professor at Southern Oregon; and playwright Frank Chin.

Explorations into the long-term psychological effects of internment were made by Te-

ruko Daniel of Pasco, while not interned carries strong memories of wartime, and a Sansei woman, Karen Seriguchi, conference director; and Ben Tong, a clinical psychologist in San Francisco. His presentation on the "quiet American" was one of the major highlights, noting that the Jews have written thousands of articles and have universalized a language concerning their internment experiences in Nazi Germany. Japanese Americans have yet to find their language, unable to talk about their experience, repressing their feelings and trauma. Perhaps future commission hearings will be a force for Japanese Americans to speak out about their "hurts" and repressed feelings, Tong suggested.

Speaking on the rights and responsibilities of citizens and redress were Frank Conklin, professor in constitutional law, Gonzaga University; Gordon Hirabayashi, Univ. of Alberta professor of sociology; Dr. Louis Kurahara, local VA hospital surgeon whose pre-medical training was interrupted by Evacuation; Sam Nakagawa, Spokane social worker

with the VA and member of the Wash. State Commission for Asian American Affairs; and Chin, in the role as devil's advocate.

Local KHQ-radio/TV director of public affairs, Bob Briley, moderated the forum. News media provided an intense and broad coverage before and after the forum.

Funds and support came from: Washington Commission for the Humanities; American Friends Service Committee, Seattle; Combined Asian American Resources Project; Highland Park United Methodist Church; Spokane JACL; Spokane Peace & Justice Center, Unitarians for Social Justice and the YWCA.

On the local planning committee:

M. Kurihara, ch; Mas Akiyama, George Cole, L. Kurahara; Louie Ladenburger, Margaret Lehan, S. Nakagawa, James Watanabe, Dennis Yasuhara (Spokane JACL pres).

### DLI buildings to be named for Nisei

MONTEREY, Ca.—Three buildings at the Defense Language Institute complex here will be named for the late Frank Hachiyu, Terry Mizutani and George Nakamura, all MIS graduates killed in action during World War II, in special ceremonies May 9 with a banquet following, it was announced by Shig Kihara, banquet chairman.

## Working with troubled people 'cure' for heart victim

Denver, Colo.

Called by Denver Post's "People" columnist Harry Farrar as "a dapper little distributor of joy", Al Kushihashi, 62, is a full-time volunteer at Senior Support Services, serving coffee and doughnuts to the aging in downtown hotels who bring their problems to the SSS center on Stout St.

The story undoubtedly caught the attention of the KBTB Channel 9 which conferred to Kushihashi one of its nine "Who Care" awards last March 27 at the Fairmont Hotel. The station annually recognizes the nine top people for their volunteerism with a full-hour telecast of the awards.

Technically retired, he puts in seven days a week, darting around like a "slightly profane missionary trying to improve the lot of the sick, the poor and the aging". He told Farrar,

"I'm doing these things because I'm not supposed to be alive." Kushihashi underwent heart surgery five

years ago, and last rites were administered.

Kushihashi grew up near North Platte, Neb., where his father farmed. He remembers nine of 10 crops being blotted out by dust-storm. He took up flying, picking up cattle bones and then trucking them to a plant where he sold the bones for \$8 a ton. In 1950, he won the first Henry Ohye Air Trophy Race from Los Angeles-Chicago, then went into trucking with a semi-rig. While living in Southern California, he became a life member of the Orange County VFW Nisei Post 3670.

Farrar concludes:

"Despite the Americanization of Al Kushihashi, he still retains the kind of family pride that has helped make the Japanese such circum-spect citizens and astonishing achievers ... (He) is one of Denver's busiest dispensers of help to those who desperately need it."

"We are not unimpressed with the inherent improbability argument, despite the heavy burden it carries; however we find it of no avail to the people even if we were to accept and adopt it," the appellate court judges wrote.

The issue, the court ruled, is whether Morris told a San Francisco detective he was an eyewitness to the Tak killing — information which was never provided to Lee's lawyers.

The prosecution's contention that the habeas corpus writ is deficient because it doesn't explicitly reverse Lee's conviction is "without merit," the appeal court wrote. Karlton's order, the court said, correctly ordered the prison superintendent to "discharge (defendant) from custody pursuant to his conviction of murder in the first degree under Superior Court of Sacramento County, Case No. 44362..."

The appellate judges agreed with the defense argument that the Karlton order was based on the setting aside of Lee's conviction.

"I was absolutely elated," said defense lawyer Leonard Weinglass who successfully took Lee's case before Karlton. "This is a major turning point for Chol — the beginning of his vindication."

The prosecution — disappointed and surprised by the court ruling — hasn't announced yet whether it will drop the case, appeal to the California Supreme Court, or seek a retrial on the Chinatown case.

"We wish the prosecution wouldn't waste the taxpayers' money by pushing for a retrial," said Jay K. Yoo, coordinator of the national Chol Soo Lee Defense Committee.

"We were joyous," he said, "and this ruling will have an impact on the second case now on appeal."

Yoo estimated the committee would have to raise \$60,000 to \$70,000, should there be two new trials, and \$40,000 to \$50,000 if only one new trial were to be held. "We have to keep raising money."

Whether the prosecution would seek a retrial on the Chinatown case is up to the discretion of the San Francisco prosecutor, according to Weinglass.

Despite past setbacks, the renowned human rights advocate said he held hope that "ultimately we would prevail."

As for the prison case on appeal before the state supreme court, Weinglass reasoned: "The supreme court could send it down to the appellate court for a decision, or affirm it or reverse it. If it reverses it, then there is a decision to be made on whether it would be retried. If it affirms it (the prison murder conviction), then we have to file a petition in federal district court in Sacramento."

Weinglass added: "Hopefully Chol will be the man whom we could bail out within six months. Whatever charges he will be facing, he will be in a much stronger and much better position than he was in before."

—Koreatown, Los Angeles



Denver Post Photo by Glen Martin  
Volunteer Al Kushihashi helping people seven days a week.

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WEST WIND: Joe Oyama

## 'For one George Shima, there were ...'

(This is the third and final column in a series on the Yuji Ichioka lecture held in San Francisco recently. Ichioka is with the Asian American Studies Center at UCLA.—JO)

San Francisco  
**'Free White Persons'**—In California in 1921, Issei farmers who signed 3-year land leases back in 1918, were confronted with a very serious problem affecting their economic stability. Their leases having expired, they were reduced from being farmers to laborers again.

Seeking to be classified as "free white persons" (to circumvent the discriminatory Alien Land Act), two Issei, Ozawa and Tagawa, brought their case to the California Supreme Court, but the court ruled "they were Mongolians, therefore ineligible to own land."

At that time, a number of Western states also prohibited Issei "from leasing of land". In Washington, aside from the prohibition on leasing land, purchase of stocks in land companies and the purchase of land in the name of a minor child was prohibited.

To insure productivity and continuity, white landowners agreed to what is called a "proping contract" with the issei farmers, Ichioka continued. Under the contract, Issei farmers would be hired as the landowner's employer and the

### Deaths

**Arima, Clarence Y.**, 76, Los Angeles Nisei pioneer, died Mar. 31. He is survived by w Toyo, s Curtis, d Tomiko Camacho and br Ernest (Chicago).

farm profits would be shared with the landowner in what was called a share lease agreement.

The then California Attorney General Webb took no position on the legality of the contracts, so a group of landowners petitioned him, asking, "Are they or are they not prohibited?"

He replied, "Yes, they are prohibited as far as the anti-Alien Land Act," so a determined group of Issei took their case to the supreme court. In the fall of 1923, the supreme court, hearing the Frick and Sato case, ruled that Japanese are "aliens ineligible to citizenship."

**Crown Insult** — "We are being treated like the Toaya Case—the Eta cast in Japan!" The Japanese newspapers exclaimed, "This is the crowning insult! Six months later in 1924, the Immigrant Act passed. The Exclusion movement achieved total racial unassimilability. On July 1st, there was a suicide in the compound of the American Embassy," Ichioka continued.

At the time, seeing no future for themselves, the Issei "hoped the Nisei would receive fair treatment. There was bitterness, a kind of resentment, behind a strong nationalistic identification."

The "national identification", may I add, was the direct result of prejudice, discrimination and exclusion, a reaction to what is called

racism today. Despite this, I feel the Issei were consistent in their belief that the Nisei, being products of this country, should do all they can for it.

**Seikohanashi Stories**—Ichioka continued, "In Japan there have been seikohanashi (stories of success, giving a narrow myopic view of immigrant history. The history of the Japanese of this period has been a working class history. For one George Shima, there were 1,000 Issei laborers."

Shima was the multi-millionaire Stockton delta potato king.

**Asian American Dream**—Speaking of a "working class history", I am reminded of a song, "Asian American Dream", which was composed by a Sansei singer, Philip Gotanda, from Stockton. When he sings, he reminds his Nikkei audience over and over again.

**"Doctors and lawyers and dental hygiene—from a Working Class Machine. My Mama had to cry and scrub and clean, she never had time to live and love and dream, etc."**

Incidentally, Gotanda himself was a law student who turned musician, writer and a very talented composer.

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Takahashi importing company and a chain of stores. Yuji Ichioka's lecture opened

the second in an annual series of Takahashi lectures sponsored by Continued on Page 8

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## 15 co-sponsor Lowry redress bill

WASHINGTON—In the past month, 15 Members of Congress have cosponsored H.R. 5977, the Japanese-American Human Rights Violations Redress Act, prime sponsor Congressman Mike Lowry announced today.

A letter asking for cosponsors was sent by Lowry (D-7th) on Feb. 19, the 38th anniversary of Executive Order 9066 which led to the mass internment of 112,000 people of Japanese ancestry on the West Coast in 1942. The cosponsors of H.R. 5977 to date are:

Rep. Daniel Akaka (D-Hawaii); Rep. Michael Barnes (D-Md); Rep. David Bonior (D-Mich); Rep. Ron Dellums (D-Cal); Rep. Walter Fauntroy (D-D.C.); Rep. George Hansen (R-Iowa); Rep.

Harold Johnson (D-Cal); Rep. George Miller (D-Cal); Rep. Parren Mitchell (D-Md); Rep. Richard Ottinger (D-NY); Rep. Fred Richmond (D-NY); Rep. Louis Stokes (D-Ohio); Rep. Bruce Vento (D-Minn); Rep. Henry Waxman (D-Cal); Rep. Howard Wolpe (D-Mich).

In his letter, Lowry noted: "All three branches of our government acted in concert to deny due process and precious Constitutional rights. Wartime hysteria fueled by racial prejudice allowed a nation steeped in traditions safeguarding individual rights and freedoms to casually push those rights and freedoms aside.... We must take strong action to insure that this type of gross violation of our Constitution is never allowed again." #

## Helen Kim settles sex discrimination case over her job of 20 years as L.A. city employee

LOS ANGELES—The City of Los Angeles has admitted to 21 years of prejudice—sex discrimination—in reaching a \$20,000 settlement this past week with Helen Kim, a California-born Korean American, who has been a civil engineering draftsman (1957-77) in the city's traffic department, now the Dept. of Transportation.

Former co-workers and bosses testified she was never promoted though it was not for lack of trying. She filed sex discrimination charges over a year ago and the Personnel Dept. found "substantial evidence to establish that various individuals in the Traffic Dept. discouraged Kim from applying for and competing in examinations for higher position because of her sex".

The City Council on Mar. 27 approved a \$20,000 settlement. A year ago she was talking about \$75,000 to \$125,000 plus legal fees.

The Los Angeles Times which editorially supports the ERA amendment, said April 2 "her case illustrates precisely what feminists have been saying: sex discrimination is wrong, it penalizes productive workers and their employers and it must end".

### Los Angeles

Designed for the Japan-bound tourist, student or worker is Monday evening course (NCSF-37) starting April 28, 6:10 p.m. at Cal State-L.A. with Judith Glickman, lecturer in Japanese on campus, who will survey Japan's basic geography, history and culture.

An intimate B&W photo essay of Darwin, a community of 40 people living in the mountains east of Manzanar, by Shoin Fukui will be on exhibit April 14-25 at the Sumitomo Bank in Little Tokyo. Fukui, 33, a free-lance photographer from Japan and an NHK cameraman for "Amerika Monogatari" and the Toyo Miyatake documentary, "Proof of 30,000 Photographs", is graduating in cinematography from Columbia College here in Hollywood.

ISSN: 0030-8579

## PACIFIC CITIZEN

Published weekly except first and last weeks of the year at 244 S. San Pedro St., Rm. 506, Los Angeles, Ca 90012 (213) 626-6936

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2d Class postage paid at Los Angeles, Ca.

Subscription Rates: JACL Members—\$7 of National dues provides one-year on per-household basis. Nonmembers—\$10 a yr. payable in advance. Foreign—US\$15 a yr. Air or 1st Class extra.

News or opinions expressed by columnists, except JACL staff writers, do not necessarily reflect the JACL policy.

## Demo chairman resigns Assemblyman Mori staff

OAKLAND Ca.—Alameda County Democratic Chairman Mary Warren has resigned from the staff of Pleasanton Assemblyman Floyd Mori in the midst of his tough re-election campaign, according to Tribune political writer Gayle Montgomery.

Mori is being challenged by Supervisor Charles Santana of Hayward for the Democratic nomination in a primary election that may be a local version of the Sacramento battle for speaker of the Assembly.

Warren said Mar. 28 she is quitting as Mori's administrative assistant because of internal problems in the office, but

her departure is regarded generally as a blow to Mori and a general crumbling of his Democratic support.

Mori, who could not be reached for comment that night, is considered a prime target by Assemblyman Howard Berman, the Los Angeles Democrat who tried to wrest the speakership from Assemblyman Leo McCarthy earlier this year.

Berman claims Mori first supported his move, then changed over to McCarthy and helped prevent the coup.

"Circumstances I just couldn't control made it uncomfortable enough for me to leave," Warren said. "I'm going to devote more time to the Democratic Party."

She said this does not mean she is endorsing Santana, but her resignation undoubtedly will be interpreted as a slap at Mori.

The Democratic chairman

### Hawaii

UH professor of Japanese history, John J. Stephan, is writing a book about bombing of Pearl Harbor and has been lecturing to his classes that Japan intended to annex Hawaii except that its plans were foiled by the Battle of Midway in June, 1942. While historians believe Japan had no intention of invading Hawaii, military archives in Japan and little known diaries of Japanese military and naval officials indicate otherwise, according to Stephan. Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto had ordered research on the invasion of Hawaii, Stephan added.

Stan Morioka of Waipahu High won the Oahu Interscholastic Assn. basketball coach of the year honors after leading his team to their second straight OIA title.

man's place is in the home! They weren't even subtle about it! It was just inconceivable that a woman could be on an equal footing with men, or be a supervisor."

How did she react to such treatment?

"From the day I was born, I was programmed to work and to survive," she said in an interview a year ago. "I never expected the boys (at work) to work as hard as I did, and I knew that to survive in this department as the only woman, I had to do better. Do more. Be Helen. I did produce. I was nice Helen. I was dependable Helen. I was good Helen..."

Kim is a native Californian of Korean ancestry.

"I'm Oriental," she said. "You do not admit a shame publicly. Because of these things that happened to me, in a sense it was a reflection of me that people had these attitudes. So you feel less as a person." #



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also left open the question of whether she might later support Santana.

"I like to have options, and I am exercising the option here to leave."

Warren said McCarthy had asked her to stay, but she said "they gave me no alternatives."

Mori had recently hired Rob Alves, a former administrative assistant to the late Assemblyman Carlos Bee to be district administrator, a move that appeared to shove Warren aside and which irked many of Mori's former supporters.

It is generally regarded as the reason Mori was not endorsed by several labor organizations that have supported him before.

The move comes at a time when Santana is again criticizing Mori's use of the state auto leasing program to pay for a large recreational van for his family. The lease came to light last year when a San Francisco television station revealed that Mori used the state-leased van for a trip with his family to Utah. At that time, Mori denied taking the van out of the state until he

was confronted with television films of the vehicle in Salt Lake City.

Santana's latest attack concerns the assemblyman's use of campaign funds to help pay for the lease.

Warren would not comment on the van lease, except to say "it's bound to be an issue." She also declined to predict whether Mori can regain his party's nomination. "I don't know," she said. "I think it's going to be a close race." #

## Matsui supports

### Mukai for high post

WASHINGTON—Rep. Robert T. Matsui (D-Cal.) urged President Carter to appoint Gerry Mukai as Director of the Community Services Administration (CSA) based upon Matsui's "profound professional respect" for Mukai, a Salt Lake JACLer and onetime Intermountain District governor.

In a letter to the President, Mar. 26, Matsui said Mukai has a solid reputation of being "a capable, creative, and effective administrator." At present Mukai is Associate Director of the Office of Economic Development.

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## Senate Hearing

Bright lights flooded the Senate committee hearing on S. 1647, a Bill to establish a Presidential commission to conduct a full investigation into the eviction and incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II. The day was March 18th.

Senator Henry Jackson, presiding, is one of the two men in the United States Congress who was in Congress in 1942 when it passed Public Law 77-503 to enforce Executive Order 9066 through federal courts. One of the witnesses stated that the decision to incarcerate Japanese Americans during World War II was made by "good men" who were caught up in the morbid emotion of the time.

A camera recorded every movement. Testimonies were clearly in favor of the Bill. Oppositions expressed stated that the Bill did not provide for an immediate remedy.

Certain historical facts are known. There are, however, many profound questions which cannot be answered in the light of limited evidence available. It was stated that these facts need to be brought out for a fuller understanding of how such a gross violation of constitutional rights at the highest level of the government came about.

A pertinent question was brought out. Does the statement in the Bill, "...Government shall cooperate with the commission and furnish all information requested..." mean that the commission has a subpoena power? Senator Jackson stated that this was an important point and he will see that this is included in the Bill.

"Why is it necessary to create a new commission? Why can't one of the already existing commission, such as the Civil Rights Commission, take on this job?" The answer was forthright. The existing commissions are all overloaded with work. Only an independent, specifically created commission can immediately and adequately take on this important function.

A large delegation of Japanese Americans in the Senate committee hearing room seemed well satisfied.

REDRESS PHASE 2: John Tateishi



## U.S. Iranians

One of the basic premises of the Redress campaign has always been to develop an awareness among the American public of the injustices we experienced in 1942, and in so doing, to help insure that such injustices are never again repeated.

Our legislation focuses on an official investigation of the Evacuation by a commission as a means of rectifying a past injustice and also as a means of placing into the official records of this nation's government the totality of the Japanese American experience during the Second World War.

In the midst of all our efforts, Sen. S.I. Hayakawa (R-Cal.) had proposed legislation to intern all Iranian nationals "the way we did the Japanese in World War II." (The bill, S. 2437 slightly altered, has been introduced Mar. 19 as the American Sovereignty Protection Act by Hayakawa.—Ed.)

The JACL, in a position statement issued by National Director Karl Nobuyuki, has vowed that it "would vigorously fight such legislation." And accordingly, the National Committee for Redress stands in total opposition to Senator Hayakawa's proposal.

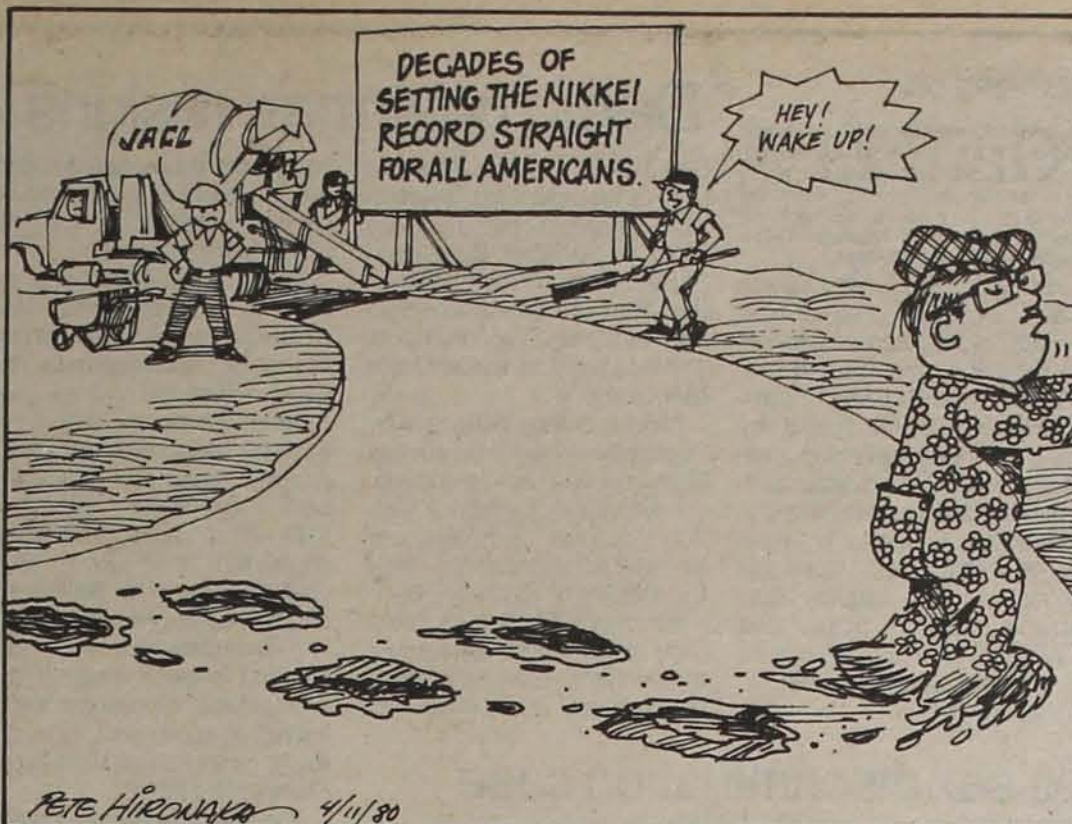
In view of our own tragic experiences of the past, the JA community cannot in any way support such a proposal, for the proposed legislation is wrong and unjust and is a complete violation of the very principles we are fighting to uphold.

In 1942, we were the innocent victims of governmental actions which singled us out solely on the basis of ancestry. Today, Hayakawa's proposal singles out the Iranians living in this country on the same basis—regardless of their innocence—as hostages for possible exchange of American hostages being held in Iran. Let's we forget, we need to remind ourselves that Japanese Americans were being considered for a hostage exchange for American soldiers being held in Japanese POW camps. Both ideas smack of a mob mentality, and both are equally absurd and frightening.

And it makes very little difference that, as Senator Hayakawa claims, the public response in California to his proposal has been 5 to 1 in favor. In fact it matters very little if the response is 50 to 1, for as Congressman Mineta has so acutely pointed out, it is exactly this type of public sentiment that was largely responsible for the internment of Japanese Americans in the past.

We stand firmly committed to our position. If the principles of the Redress campaign have any consequence at all, they must have meaning in times such as these. And if the Constitution and American democracy are to have legitimacy as the cornerstone of the free world, they must uphold the principles by which we live.

Otherwise, Redress, in principle, has absolutely no meaning at all.



### ● We Need the Money

Editor:

If you can believe statements in the newspapers attributed to some of the JACL leaders in the redress campaign, it would seem that they have lost their perspective. In the Los Angeles Times article (March 24) titled "WWII Internment Issue Still Ranks" by Teresa Watanabe, Times staff writer, she has the following quotations:

"We don't need the money, but it's there as a symbolic gesture...that a wrong was committed in 1942," Tateishi said. "It's Congress' way of making sure it doesn't happen again."

Yet at least two key legislative supporters of the commission bill, Sen. Hayakawa and Rep. Norman Mineta oppose individual monetary compensation. However, Mineta did support payments in the form of scholarships or community development grants. He said the government could grant funds to finance the redevelopment of Little Tokyo into a cultural center, which would benefit all Americans.

In the March 28 Pacific Citizen, "Senate panel hears JACL redress bill," Mike Masaoka is quoted as suggesting that the Commission establish a public trust fund that could be used for many needed public purposes, such as cultural and community centers to promote U.S. Japan understanding.

These statements may have been taken out of context but nevertheless they miss the point. To say that we don't need the money gives credence to the stereotype statement that all the Japanese have it made. I'm sure there are a number of Issei and some Nisei too who really need the money, so let's be careful when we say "we".

As to statements by Rep. Mineta and Mike Masaoka, if a wrong was committed and individual rights were violated, as most of us agree, and it is determined that some monetary redress is appropriate, how can anyone tell the individual how his/her money should be spent. Remember it was the individual whose rights were violated and who was incarcerated or suffered. If that individual chooses to donate it to a trust fund, spend it, burn it or refuse it, that's his/her choice, but not yours or mine to decide for them. Making statements about trust funds, grants, etc., will just make it easy for the Commission to cop out and recommend redress and since we recommended a trust fund, they'll ask for \$100,000,000 which will seem like a lot but really less than \$1,000 per individual. But if they offered

only a \$1,000 per individual directly that would be a paltry sum.

I'm not against the Commission approach, or the Seattle approach either, but I think we should stick with the principle of the issue and quit acting like we're apologizing for the redress campaign, Hayakawa will take care of that.

Put the onus on the Commission to come up with a fair and just decision.

HENRY S. SAKAI  
Long Beach, Ca.

### ● Reluctant? No!

Editor:

The article in the March 28th issue concerning the American Testimonial Dinner at the Bonaventure Hotel should be clarified from my standpoint.

It was stated that I was a reluctant but gracious presenter of Senator Hayakawa. I was not reluctant nor have I ever been hesitant about introducing Senator Hayakawa to any group or function. I do

not agree with the Senator on the Iranian matter. In fact, when I was consulted by a JACL staff member about a reply for media publication, I told the individual that the statement should be stronger than that which was read to me. I was evacuated and spent one year in Poston 3. I know what it was like to be evacuated and kept behind barbed wires. I hope this never happens to anyone again.

Although I disagree with the Senator on the Iranian matter, I, nevertheless, have a great amount of respect for his accomplishments and for the fact that he has been willing to discuss issues at any time. Decisions made by him on various issues are based upon convictions on his part that what he is proposing or doing is for the best interest of the country. When he is wrong, as he is in this Iranian crisis situation, I will try to prevail upon him to view it from a more objective standpoint. As one of the Senators representing the largest

FROM HAPPY VALLEY: Sachi Seko

## A Noncomplying Nemesis

Salt Lake City—Senator S.I. Hayakawa is the Japanese American enigma. Sometimes, he is portrayed as the Japanese American nemesis. Whether he is hero or villain, one fact remains indisputable. He is always interesting. I was reminded of this as I read his latest volume, *Through the Communication Barrier*, (Harper and Row, New York, 1979), his first book in over ten years. It is a collection of essays culled from presentations in journals, magazines, seminars and the Senator's syndicated columns.

I enjoyed the book more than a previous favorite, *Symbol, Status and Personality*. Perhaps because this book is less academic than the other and I was reading while confined to bed. It was altogether a disagreeable day, with a snow storm raging outside and one furnace temporarily out of operation in the house. I wanted to read something for pleasure, to escape uncontrollable discomforts of the day.

The title of the book, *Through the Communication Barrier*, seemed forbidding, likely to inflict another headache. However, the cover photo on the book jacket conveyed a laughing image, the familiar face under the famous tan o'shanter, whose every feature is fused into an invitation to join the fun.

S.I. Hayakawa was a name that appeared on most required or suggested reading lists long before he achieved public recognition as the president of San Francisco State College during its turbulent period or as a United States Senator from California. Although he has written other best-selling books, his *Language in Thought and Action*, is most commonly identified with him. The Senator is a foremost authority in communications. As a young man, he was greatly influenced by Alfred Korzybski, founder of what is known as, "general semantics". His enduring influence on Hayakawa is acknowledged by the book's respectful dedication to his memory.

What is the definition of semantics? Hayakawa has this description, "So general semantics is not simply a matter of studying language, but of studying one's self and one's own reactions." By applying this rule to the book, the reader is painlessly educated. She is also hugely entertained, which is the prevailing reason for read-

ing books. Examine some of the essay titles, "Father Knows Best—Sometimes", "Sex is Not a Spectator Sport", "What's Wrong with Japanese Men", "Why Some Children Cannot Spell", and "The Japanese American Generation Gap".

There is a delightful essay called, "Eschew Obfuscation", in which he points a good-natured finger at those who try to use, "learned and pretentious words", instead of the simple ones that are easily understood. He relates an experience that occurred while he was an editorial consultant to a social science journal. After examining a few papers that were submitted to the journal, he decided to write a sociological paper, following the same scholarly form. He called it, "The Kallikaks and the San Francisco Giants: An Inquiry into the Formation of Attitudinal Sets", by S.I. Hayakawa, Ph. D. After leading us through 300 words of convoluted sentences, he states that it could have been reduced to one simple sentence, "People generally root for their hometown teams." Hayakawa asks, "But why do we have to endure the academics and bureaucrats who insist on making verbal mountains out of intellectual molehills? How can people learn to think clearly, confronted with this onslaught of verbiage?" The book is a celebration of language at its best, clear and concise.

Most of us know the Senator in his public role, sometimes as an embarrassment. The book provides glimpses into his private life as son, nephew, husband, father and friend. The most personal essay in the collection is, "Our Son Mark". It is a truthful and touching account of his son, born with Down's Syndrome, known as mongolism. I particularly liked its concluding sentence, "It's a strange thing to say, and I am a little startled to find myself saying it but often I feel that I wouldn't have had Mark any different."

The book contains only one political chapter, "Mr. Hayakawa Goes to Washington". As he explains, "I have been a Senator for only two years; the time to write a book on political matters is still to come." I am willing to wager that it will be controversial, but no matter, for I know it will be as interesting as its author. #

## 35 Years Ago

in The Pacific Citizen

APRIL 14, 1945

April 3—Work of Nisei MIS men on invasion of Okinawa told in delayed dispatch.

April 5—UW students rout Seattle racists (Remember Pearl Harbor League) meeting to protest return of evacuees.

April 6—Fresno County farm board imposes benefit restrictions to Nisei, board of supervisors also refuses any welfare aid to rehabilitate returning evacuees.

April 8—Marine Corps generals recognize work and value of Nisei GI combat interrogators, says photographer Joe Rosenthal (famed for his Mt. Suribachi scene of U.S. Marines hoisting a flag in midst of battle).

April 9—442nd RCT spearheads Fifth Army spring offensive in Italy, capture Carrara, Mt. Belvedere on western flank, first report of Nisei troops being back in Italy.

April 9—Hood River post restores Nisei names to county honor roll.

April 9—UC Davis educator (Dr Knowles Ryerson) reports GIs in Pacific condemn any boycott plan against Nisei.

April 10—Playwright Robt Sherwood, returning from Pacific theater, urges "hand of fellowship" to Japanese after war as profession of U.S. democracy.

April 10—WRA reports only 1,400 back on West Coast; about 55,000 still in camps waiting to return in the west.

April 12—Death of President Roosevelt mourned as champion of the "forgotten man".

constituency in the country, his time is extremely limited and it is difficult to sit with him to discuss the various issues. However, he is not averse to listening to all positions and all sides of a question.

Unfortunately, too many people immediately set up a negative, aggressive attitude towards anything he does or says. In light of some of the statements made in the past, this may be justified, but it certainly does not create an atmosphere for positive discussions.

Once again, I would like to reiterate that though I may disagree and differ with him strongly on certain issues, I respect him and will deem it an honor any time I am asked to introduce him.

S. STEPHEN NAKASHIMA  
San Jose, Ca.

### ● NC-WNDC

The Northern California-Western Nevada District redress committee, chaired by Chuck Kubokawa, gathered Mar. 29 at the Satow Bldg. to be brief on the legislative campaign that is about to get underway. Steps to inform local area Nikkei groups, churches and other organizations, preparing to testify at the local hearings on S1647 - HR 5499, and getting the information down to the local members were stressed.

Support the JACL-Satow Fund  
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FROM THE FRYING PAN: Bill Hosokawa

## 'Gaijin' Psyche: Us and Them

Denver, Colo.

The March 8 issue of the Japan Times Weekly carries a provocative essay by Dr. Toru Yano on the way Japanese view foreigners. That point of view is epitomized by the Japanese word for foreigner, *gaijin*, which literally means outside person.

No matter how well *gaijin* speaks Japanese, no matter how completely he has adopted Japanese customs and the Japanese diet, he continues to be a *gaijin*, Yano writes. Even if the foreigner marries a Japanese, his spouse becomes a *gaijin* while he remains a foreigner.

"The term *gaijin* is rooted in the Japanese outlook on life which sharply differentiates between 'inside' and 'outside,' a traditional characteristic of Japanese society," Yano says. "The Japanese are always conscious of themselves as resident of an 'inside' world where they live by very finely defined cultural and social rules.

"On the other hand, they identify the 'outside' world as a sphere with an entirely different set of rules, and have a special word, *yoso*, to designate this outside world and a protective instinct against mingling with this alien culture. For the Japanese, *gaijin* are instinctively *yoso-mono* (outsiders). Japanese society is characterized by this duality which is based on the premise that Japanese and foreigners are different in every sense of the word."

Yano continues: "The most decisive evidence of this

duality is provided by the terms *yokomeshi* and *tatemeshi*. *Yokomeshi* means dining with a foreigner or foreigners and *tatemeshi* means a meal shared among only Japanese. *Yoko*, meaning horizontal, refers to the horizontal or non-Japanese way of writing and *tate* means vertical, which corresponds to writing vertically, hence in the Japanese way.

"When going out to dine with foreigners on business, Japanese usually sigh: 'How unfortunate, it's *yokomeshi* today.' And although they never show displeasure or uneasiness during the meal, they will ask for *ochazuke* (tea poured over rice) upon returning home and mumble to their wives: '*yokomeshi* is an exhausting experience.' Washing down the memory of *yokomeshi* with a bit of *tatemeshi* at home, they regain psychological stability and peace of mind."

Dr. Yano views the Japanese concept of "us" as distinguished from "them" as an extraordinary simplification of realities. "Nothing could be more anachronistic than to lump together Americans, Russians, Afghans and Arabs under the single category, *gaijin*," he observes.

Obviously the Issei, in migrating to this country, brought the *gaijin* concept with them even though they themselves were the foreigners. Even now it is not uncommon for Issei, who have lived in the United States 60 or 70 years and have become United States citizens, to refer to all Caucasians as *gaijin*.

What part did this psychology have in hindering the assimilation of the Issei into American society? If one subconsciously but persistently considers all non-Japanese as outsiders, that attitude certainly must have had a bearing on that person's adjustment to his new environment.

One must wonder also how much the *gaijin* psychology rubbed off on the Nisei, and how much this us vs. them way of thought has to do with the clannishness of Japanese Americans in comparison with the external pressures that kept them concentrated largely within Oriental ghettos prior to World War II. And how much of this psychology survives in the current preoccupation among many elements of Japanese American society with their own cultural Japanese-ness?

I don't have any answers; I'm just asking. Perhaps sociologists of the stature of Dr. Harry Kitano and his scholarly colleagues could explain this for us. #

### ● Carrousel:

## Miyake's 'What the Enemy Looks Like'

BY KATS KUNITSUGU

Los Angeles

I have never been to Las Vegas, and I haven't seen "Apocalypse Now". The former probably makes me a *rara avis* among Nisei, and the latter probably better qualifies me to appreciate the little showcase production of "What the Enemy Looks Like", a play about the Japanese American experience in the Vietnam war, which opened for a brief run at the East West Players March 20.

Francis Ford Coppola has probably taken care of the apocalyptic aspects of the Vietnam quagmire, I gather, from what I have read of the reviews.

Perry Miyake, Jr., the 1980 Rockefeller playwright-in-residence of the East West Players, attempts a more personal point of view in his play, and while it falls somewhat short of what it might have been, it is an honest and valiant effort which receives an earnest and respectful showcasing at the hands of a relatively unknown but well-trained cast.

The Japanese translation of "Apocalypse Now" is "Jigoku-no-Mokujiroku" (Revelations of Hell). If Vietnam was the hell where so much U.S. idealism, naivete and goodness became indistinguishable from slimy lies, greed, hate and lust, it was the hell where David, a nice, likeable, normal young Sansei learned to kill other human beings who looked more like him than his buddies.

The experience turns him into a touchy, nightmare-haunted ex-soldier who will have to confront many a grisly ghost over many a sleepless night before he can come to terms with himself. The play succeeds in establishing the fact that war is hell, which we acknowledge, but does not go beyond establishing the fact.

Because this is a Japanese American family we are concerned with, the play could have taken several interesting turns. The figure of the Nisei father, I think, could have been developed more fully to provide a sharper contrast in the two generations. Perhaps the father could have served in the Pacific during World War II, where the enemy not only looked like him but had names like Tanaka and Watanabe, instead of Ng or Ky. Was he able to come to terms with killing easier because the enemy had dropped the bombs on Pearl Harbor and had been the cause for thousands of Japanese Americans being thrown into American concentration camps? Did he ever wonder about the face in his gunsight which may have belonged to a nice, likeable, normal young Japanese who really didn't like getting killed any more than he did?

And did he ever wonder that the real reason he volunteered out of the "relocation" camps was not for Mom and apple pie but for a chance to prove that he was as American as any white kid?

What about the mother? In Miyake's play, she is a slightly comical but sympathetic figure, fussily worrying about her son like a stereotypical mother. "They also serve who only stay and wait," may be well and good, but American women, Nisei included, have very little understanding about war. I know I don't. All I know is that the Gold Star Mother schtick makes me sick.

"We have met the enemy, and the enemy is ours," a famous general was quoted as having said. The gist of Miyake's play is, "We have met the enemy, and the enemy is us," but the message could have gone beyond the surface similarity into the deeper reality of truth—that war is hell because it may be a revelation of our true nature which glories in violence and gore but is too

Continued on Page 8

## Items

### ● Sacramento

Sacramento JACL will host its third annual boys high school invitational basketball tournament April 12-13 at Sacramento City College with the opening round at 7 p.m. Saturday pitting San Jose and Contra Costa, followed by the 8:30 game between Berkeley and Sacramento. The championship game is set for 2:30 p.m. Sunday, preceded by the consolation round at 1 p.m., it was announced by Walter Otani, tournament chair.

### ● Los Angeles

Over 100 Little Tokyo area business and community leaders honored Commissioner Armando Rodriguez of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Mar. 26 at a New Otani Hotel dinner hosted by the Asian American National Business Alliance. Tad Ikemoto was emcee; Teresa Yokoyama-Iizuka was banquet chair. The commissioner said age discrimination has become the prime area of concern for the EEOC and urged employers in the audience to develop affirmative action plans if not already done.

A special tour of the Japanese gardens in West Los Angeles to raise funds for the Nora Sterry Community Lighted School will commence at 1:30 p.m. April 13 at the school, 1730 Corinth Ave. For information: Sid Yamazaki (477-2084).

### ● Canada

Former airline stewardess Lilija Arkolainen-Kaiser, 36, recently won her divorce decree from her industrialist husband, Edgar F. Kaiser Jr., 38, and a reported \$1 million settlement. Named as co-respondent was Sue Haraguchi, former secretary for Kaiser.

Toronto Nisei Libertarian candidate Shirley Yamada received 135 votes in the recent Parkside-High Park (see Mar. 7 PC) district elections. Winner was Liberal candidate Jesse Flis with 17,803 votes.

Friday, April 11, 1980 / PACIFIC CITIZEN—5



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FROM PACIFIC SOUTHWEST: John J. Saito

## The 3 R's

Readin, Ritin and Rithmetic are as Nisei-ish as ochazuke and tsukemono but the 3 R's of Restitution, Reparations and Redress are like lamb stew or fried liver to the Nikkei community. A few hate the taste, a few like the taste but for the most, they would rather not be thinking about it.

How would you like to be the chef that prepares the meal? Have you ever celebrated a special event with your spouse and said, "Honey, let me take you out tonight to dine on fried liver!" As untasteful the meal might be, chef John Tateishi has the tremendous task of feeding the redressed liver to a lot of people.

In order to make the dish palatable chef John has to have the right spices and seasoning and this means taking off from his regular job to look for that redress spice. And at times it may mean being away from home for days at a time. In this age of modern conveniences, luxuries and easy life style, it's tough to make sacrifices.

John Tateishi and his wife Carol are rare people. One's sacrifice cannot be measured without taking into account the sacrifice of the partner.

I would have given up a long time ago but I am not John Tateishi. Maybe one of these days I might be like him.

## 1980 Officers

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Charles Takahashi, pres; Dale Ikeda, 1st vp; Ron Yamabe, 2nd vp; Ron Takahashi, rec sec; Kaoru Aoki, cor sec; Hunter Arakawa, treas; Frank Goishi and Fumio Ikeda, del; Tok Yamamoto, alt del; Ron Yamabe, memb; Mas Yamamoto, schol; Dale Ikeda, legal counsel; Roy Uyesaka, soc welf; Yoshito Takahashi, 1000 Club; Dist Rep—North Clovis: Hi Ikeda, Tok Yamamoto, South Clovis: Mike Miyamoto, Ted Takahashi, East Sunnyside: Kearney Kunishige, Ken Hori, Todd Uemura, West Sunnyside: Shigemitsu Murakami, Bob Mochizuki, North Blackstone: Shiro Minabe, East-West Blackstone: George Sakazaki, Frank Kubota, Out of Town: Bob Hirasuna, Ken Yamaguchi.

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### REEDLEY JACL

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\* non-JACL event

## Calendar

### APRIL 11 (Friday)

Tulare County—45th Anny dnr, Dinuba Memorial Hall.

### APRIL 12 (Saturday)

\*Berkeley—SPCJAS Production: "Akira wa Mondai", North Berkeley Sr Ctr, 1:30pm.

Fremont—Clam dig, Ano Nuevo St Pk, Santa Cruz.

Riverside—Gen mtg, UCRV Int'l Lounge, 7:30pm; Japan Trip slides by Helen and Jim Urata.

Sacramento—Boys High Sch invit basketball tourn (2da), Sac to CC.

### APRIL 13 (Sunday)

Contra Costa—Issei Appr Night, El Cerrito Comm Ctr, 5pm.

Tri-Valley—Teriyaki boxdunch sale.

Dayton—Bd mtg.

Cincinnati—Bd mtg.

### APRIL 14 (Monday)

West Los Angeles—Gen mtg, 6:30pm bento, Nora Sterry School, Nittake Family films, "Uprooted", and Vis Comm video clips, "Hito Hata".

Alameda—Bd mtg, Buena Vista United Meth Church, 7:30pm.

Las Vegas—Gen mtg, Osaka Restaurant, 7:30pm.

\*Bowling Green, O—E.O.9066 photo exhibit (till May 6), Bowling Green St Univ.

### APRIL 18 (Friday)

Contra Costa—CARP mtg, East Bay Free Methodist Church, 8pm.

### APRIL 19 (Saturday)

Alameda—One-day Reno trip.

Milwaukee—1000 Club whing ding, Country Garden.

\*East Los Angeles—Cherry Blossom Festival (2da), EIA College.

## Convention Schedule Deadlines

Following deadlines relate to the 26th biennial National JACL Convention in San Francisco, July 28 - Aug. 1, 1980

April 4—Application form for Japanese American of the Biennium. TO: Cherry Kinoshita, ch, JA of the Biennium Comm, 3520 S Thistle St, Seattle, Wa 98118. (See Jan. 4-11 PC for rules.)

April 29—Application form for Nominations for National Officers. TO: Grayce Ueyehara, ch, Nat'l Nomin Comm, 1535 Marlboro, West Chester, Pa 19380.

April 30—Application form for Masao-Ka Distinguished Service Award. TO: DSA Comm, c/o JACL Nat'l Hq, 1765 Sutter St, San Francisco, Ca 94115.

May 1—Convention resolutions. TO: Margaret Hasegawa, ch, Res Comm, 3562 Crawford, Idaho Falls, Id 83401.

May 1—JACLer of the Biennium award

from District Councils. TO: Edward Yamamoto, ch, JACLer of Biennium comm, 4502 Fairchild Loop, Moses Lake, Wa 98837.

May 15—Application for George J Inagaki Chapter Citizenship Award. TO: George Sakaguchi, ch, Inagaki Awd Comm, 9109 Rustic Wood Trail, St Louis, Mo 63126.

May 19—Chapter Nat'l Dues 1980. TO: Helen Kawagoe, ch, Credentials Comm, 21111 Dolores St #66, Carson, Ca 90745.

June 16—Chapter Voting Delegate form & Chapter Proxy Authority form. TO: Helen Kawagoe, ch, Credentials Comm, 21111 Dolores St #66, Carson, Ca 90745.

## No Hill Too Steep: Some S.F. 'Don'ts'

By STEVE DOI

San Francisco

Travelers to San Francisco are often told what to do when they come to San Francisco, but today, I would like to give you a few "don'ts" when you arrive for the National JACL Convention on July 28 for your week's stay in this fun city. Here they are:

**DON'T PACK** a tropical wardrobe; the mercury hovers around 64.4 f. during the day and 53.4 f. in the evening in July. You might be greeted by even a little fog to soothingly cool you after your trip from some hot and humid area. Ladies, bring a light coat even if it seems ridiculous at home.

**DON'T WEAR** your bikini to North Beach; it's the nightclub-studded Italian quarter.

**DON'T PLAN** to diet; this place is the weight-watchers' Waterloo.

**DON'T STAND** directly behind a cable car gripman; you'll get the

wind knocked out of you when he jerks back on the brake lever.

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**DON'T SEND** for an ambulance if you hear a chorus of moans, groans, and wails; it's the fog horns.

**DON'T PARK** on a hill or even a slope without cramping your wheels to the curb, setting the handbrake and putting the car in Parking gear; it's the law. How-

ever, driving will be at a minimum if you don't like the hills. Almost all the events will be at the Jack Tar Hotel or within walking distance or near almost door-to-door public transportation. Public transportation is very convenient here.

**DON'T COME** without at least one coat and tie. People tend to dress in the evenings because of the cool weather.

**DON'T COLOR** the bridge over the Golden Gate gold; it's red-orange.

**DON'T ACCOMPANY** your wives to the male strip luncheons and shows on Broadway; it's embarrassing to see the tables turned on the fellas for a change. The audience is pretty aggressive at times when they tuck in the dollar bills.

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**DON'T PLAN** to go swimming in San Francisco Bay unless you're

a member in good standing of the Polar Bear Club. Brrrr!

**DON'T FORGET** your credit cards; the smart shops and restaurants are out of this world.

**DON'T RIDE** the outside elevators of the Fairmont Hotel or the St. Francis Hotel if you have acrophobia; you get a spectacular view if you can take it.

**DON'T MISS** going to Twin Peaks or Telegraph Hill if you like panoramic views of 50 to 100 miles.

**DON'T TELL** San Franciscans that your favorite city is Los Angeles. (Sorry, you people from Los Angeles.) Above all, don't call it "Frisco."

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**SUMMARY (Since Dec. 31, 1979)**

Active (Prev total) ..... 681

Total this report ..... 78

Current total ..... 759

## Thank You

May I extend my sincere appreciation to all the people who attended and supported the JACL sponsored "American Testimonial" dinner held at the Los Angeles Bonaventure on March 22, 1980.

Because of your participation and generous contributions the event was a tremendous success.

Wiley Higuchi, Governor  
Pacific Southwest District - JACL



IDC SECRETARY—Chiyoko Morita, Salt Lake, receives recognition and token of appreciation for her decade of service as Intermountain District Council secretary from IDC Governor Al Kubota.

### Arizona

The Arizona JACL Issei Pioneer dinner will be held on Sunday, April 20, 4:30 p.m. at the JACL Building. JAYS will provide entertainment for the 25 Issei pioneers. Food is being catered in from Yum's. Tickets are \$5.

Chapter announced its scholarship awards will be presented May 3, 7 p.m., at The Pointe Resort. Herbert Jensen, former JACL credit union manager who has moved to Texas, donated \$200 to the local scholarship fund.

### CCDC

Central California District Council was scheduled to meet April 8 at the JACL regional office, Fresno, to discuss revisions of the national JACL Constitution. (Postcard came after the April 4 PC went to press.) The DEADLINE is Friday before date of issue.—Ed

### West Los Angeles

WLA JACL Auxiliary president Veronica Ohara announced the date for the annual benefit wine-tasting party for Sunday, April 27 at the Yamato Restaurant in Century City, 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.

The gala event will feature California vintners coordinated by Wine Master Joseph Minervini. Committee members are:

Chieko Inouye, Stella Kishi, Yuki Sakurai, Mary Yanokawa and Toy Kanegai.

The Auxiliary is indebted to manager Ken Ishizaki and Yamato Restaurant for the use of the facilities.

Tickets will be available from chairperson Aiko Takeshita or any member of the Auxiliary or Board. Proceeds will go to the American Cancer Society, March of Dimes and West LA JACL Scholarship Funds.



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### Nobuyuki Nakajima

## Dry and Wet in Japan

Cleveland

When one does not know the other's language, how do we communicate with each other? When one does not know the other's culture, how can we understand the behavior pattern of other people? If it were a concrete object, for example a pen, we can place it in front, point it out and say the words to each other. But, it is not easy to comprehend the meanings of dry and wet, the way they are used in Japan, unless one lives immersed in the culture.

I was amused to read about the outcome of Bill Hosokawa's effort along the line. Evidently, his counterpart made much effort also by his "hand gestures and shoulder wiggles". The result — a good try. "A dry person is frank and open, usually applied to a man, and this type of fellow is admired by the ladies. A wet, on the other hand, is passive and pliant. A wet male is disliked by men, but men like a wet girl."

Perhaps, this interpretation is somewhat too dry. Let me see if I can add some shade — to make it more wet, so-to-speak.

Bill asks if it is good or bad to be dry? This question is rather dry. Must a human behavior necessarily be good or bad? Can it be neither? Both? Now, I am presenting a wet argument.

When one is in the management, one has to make a black-and-white decision in the grey area, because not every information is available. So, one must be dry. But, one must also have sensitivity towards others, because a good human relation is important. So, one must be wet.

Traditional Japanese culture was considered to be wet; it appreciates harmony of the nature and human being. Bushido, the way of Samurai, which was an ideal behavior for man, is intimately woven with delicateness of human sensitivity. So, it is wet. But, it requires a harsh training; it is to prepare a man to face a difficult situation with a decisive manner. So, it is dry. Bushido may be a synthesis of dry and wet.

### Politics

The Asian Pacific Democratic Club of Sacramento elected **Paula Higashi** president for 1980. She is assistant to the director of the Dept. of Consumer Affairs. **Chewy Y. Ito** is the past president. Group encourages Asian candidates to run for elective office, increase Asian appointments to the boards and commissions and promote welfare of the local Asian community.

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## UOP speech meet

STOCKTON, Ca.—Three winners have been announced in the Fourth Japanese Speech Contest for language program students at Univ. of the Pacific.

Sarah Nakada won the event for beginning Japanese on the topic "Japanese Language and I." Walter Chang discussed "American Judo" to win for intermediate Japanese and Barbara Schwartz won for advanced Japanese on the subject "Silent Conversation."

The Dep. of Modern Language and Literature, and Japanese Speaking Society of America, Stockton Branch, sponsored the competition.

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## The Tree

*Usuzumi no Sakura*, the oldest cherry tree in the world, and probably the largest in Japan, is in Neo, Gifu Prefecture. 73 feet in height, 36 feet in girth, it spans 86 feet east and west, 164 feet north and south. If tradition can be trusted, it was planted by Emperor Keitai (reigned 507 - 531) with his royal hands. That would make it at least 1,449 years old.

*Usuzumi* was a sapling when medieval Europe was beginning to emerge out of the ruins of the Roman Empire. A few decades before Japan had thrown off the yoke of semi-vassalage to two dynasties of China, and was already on its own imperialist adventure in south Korea. In its life time, five major dynasties, countless lesser states, and one republic had arisen and fallen in China. And having silently witnessed 1,400 years of vicissitudes in human destiny, it is today a living legend. It is also a National Living Natural Monument, so designated and taken under its protection by the Japanese government.

The small village of Neo straddles a narrow valley midcourse on the Neo River as it threads its way down to the fertile Nobi Plain. Once before it was a focus of world's attention when the great Nobi earthquake threw up a specimen perfect escarpe-

ment athwart the valley, revealing the presence of what has come to be known as the Neodani Fault. After the scientific excitement subsided, it returned to its former obscurity until recent years, when tourism, Japan's major domestic industry, rediscovered it and turned it into a tourist mecca. There, in the middle of the village square stands this gigantic tree, dominating the village and surrounding landscape, as if to command homage of anyone who comes into the presence of its solitary majesty.

And it receives the deserved homage as tens of thousands of sightseers from all over the country flock to this remote mountain village each spring. For *Usuzumi* in full bloom is a spectacle of awesome magnificence not to say ineffable beauty, matched by few trees in the world. Stalls and kiosks selling souvenirs, *dango* and *oden* and other foods that traditionally go with blossom viewing, line the road and the square. For the brief duration of the bloom the village turns into a merry, bustling fairground.

*Usuzumi* is of the *itozakura* variety. The blossoms open the characteristic cherry pink, turn white after a while, and just before shedding, turn again to take on a lavender cast. The Japanese call this color *usuzumi*, or light India ink. Hence its name.

Its gnarled trunk gives it the aspect of a veritable patriarch. But its main branches, each as big as trees of hundreds of years, are supported by props of heavy timber. And its boughs receive sustenance from the in-arches grafted on when it began to show signs of decline. How long will it continue to bloom? Decades? Another century?

As the departing viewers turn for a last look at this latter-day

\*\*\*\*\*

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Escorted by Rev. Kosho Yukawa Oct. 19, 26 or Nov 14**

**Annual Autumn in Europe Tour ..... Oct 5 - 28  
Escorted by Tami Ono**

**Annual San Jose JACL Tour ..... Oct 6 - 27  
Escorted by Clark Taketa**

**Daily APEX departures available from \$655.00\***  
**Weekly group departures available from \$761.00\***

\* Advance Bookings Necessary

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CALL

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CLARK TAKETA • HIROKO OMURA

### Enchantee hosts

SAN FRANCISCO, Ca.—The third annual San Francisco Enchantees basketball tournament Apr. 19-20 at three locales (Washington Girls Gym for "C" division, Washington Boys Gym for "B" - Silver and City College gym for the "B" - Gold divisions) is attracting 24 teams statewide for the mythical California titles. Top contenders include San Jose Zebraettes, Gardena FOR Superonics and the host Enchantees.

## KUNITSUGU

chicken to admit it. At least I won't be convinced otherwise until the day a conscientious objector is hailed as a hero.

Jim Ishida, as David the veteran, started out a bit awkwardly but grew into his role as the play developed, and provided a smashing climax. Marilyn Tokuda, as Sara, his sister, was convincing in a difficult role. Rob Narita provided just the right natural touch as the younger brother. Tom L. Atha as the broken soldier gave a sterling cameo performance.

The play was well-paced by Alberto Isaac, director.

"What the Enemy Looks Like," will be performed again on Saturday, Apr. 26; Sunday, Apr. 27; Thursday, May 1 and Friday, May 2. For information, call 660-0366.

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