Seminar to mark S.F.-Amnesty International campaign

San Francisco — A community gathering was held on Sept. 18, 1984, at San Francisco's Japanese American Community Center to discuss the role of San Franciscans in the struggle against segregation and discrimination. The event was organized by the San Francisco chapter of Amnesty International, which is a project of Amnesty International USA, a non-profit organization that works to protect human rights around the world.

Amnesty International's work is based on the principle that everyone has the right to life, liberty, and security. The organization is dedicated to protecting the human rights of all people, regardless of race, religion, gender, or nationality.

The seminar included a panel discussion on contemporary educational issues in the San Francisco Bay Area, moderated by the director of the National Education for the Humanities Project. The panelists included a representative from Amnesty International, a speaker from the National Endowment for the Humanities, and a student from the University of California, Berkeley.

The panelists discussed issues such as the right to education, the role of government in education, and the importance of multicultural education. They also addressed the challenges of providing education to students from diverse backgrounds.

In his opening remarks, the executive director of Amnesty International emphasized the importance of education as a tool for promoting human rights. He noted that education is a fundamental right, and that everyone should have access to quality education, regardless of their background.

The panelists agreed that education is a powerful tool for promoting human rights, and that it is essential for promoting social justice and equality. They also emphasized the importance of sharing perspectives and experiences, and of creating a welcoming and inclusive learning environment.

The seminar concluded with a call to action for all San Franciscans to become involved in the struggle for human rights. The panelists encouraged everyone to support organizations that work to protect human rights, and to speak out against discrimination and injustice.

Overall, the seminar was a valuable opportunity to learn about the important work of Amnesty International, and to be inspired by the dedication of those who are working to protect human rights around the world.

The seminar received widespread coverage in the San Francisco media, including coverage by the San Francisco Chronicle and the San Francisco Examiner.

For more information, please visit the website of Amnesty International USA at www.amnestyusa.org.
Aleuts wowed Native American and Slavic traditions

By REIY MICHIO OKESKA
Anchorage, Alaska

Although the initial contact with Russian frontiersmen and entrepreneurs in the 1700s was peaceful, the Aleut people were altered in their condition as the Aleut People was significantly improved after the arrival of the Orthodox Mission in 1794, and especially after Father Peter Arseniev's visit to the Aleut village of Tungevetsvet, a Native of Atka, a few years later. Not only did the Fathers defend the Native people from exploitation at the hands of the Russians and other foreigners, but they established Russian language schools in which Aleuts were taught to read and write their own language as well as a productive trade or profession.

Aleuts were regularly sent to Inskot or even St. Petersburg to serve on the Royal Court of Russia (1867) to the United States, there were scores of Aleut "college graduates" who built and navigated ships, charted uncharted regions of the Aleutian Islands, contributed to the establishment of Russian language schools, propagated the Christian Faith, painted icons and portraits, performed in orchestras and chamber ensembles, and generally contributed to cultural and spiritual life. One Aleut, a Major General in the Russian army, became Governor of Ayan, on the Siberian coast, and published one of the first logs of the Pacific voyages of "Konstantin." Other Aleuts were donated to the Alaskan Mission by Orthodox People of Tsarist Russia and later stolen from Aleut homes and churches by the U.S. government in California. Those stolen from Aleuts, however, have been scattered to the ends of the earth. (One small collection from the chapel at Bokska and recently acquired by the Anchorage Fine Arts Museum was estimated by the curators to be valued today at over a quarter million dollars.)

Some think that the loss of our churches and homes was not only a loss, but added the Church as the "caretaker" for these sacred things for the help of the future generations of Aleuts. Others think that the loss is a "violation of due process rights" to which the Aleuts are entitled. Perhaps, asked the Supreme Court, are the Aleuts entitled to a "constitutional remedy?"

"And so it was, in the 19th century, that Russia, through its government, acknowledged the Aleut's property interests and attempted to protect them..."
Friday, October 9, 1981 / PACIFIC CITIZEN—3

In the span of three acts (running a total of about three hours with two ten-minute intermissions), "J" boldly attempts to provide an encapsulated history of the Evacuation through the story of one family. In its style, it also deals with the then terrible dilemma of being an American with the face of the "enemy". To an extent, it varies emotionally, for there are some powerful and poignant scenes. However, Nikkei audiences may find the "messages" being delivered as all but subtle did the Japanese-American community during the war call their "concentration camps" so blatantly and humorously.

But that flaw may be forgivable, since author Richard France (the only non-American playwright in the EWSP season) told the P."
The 'messages' of his play are more serious, aim at, or would like to be aimed at, the 'messages' and 'messeiges' of..." Jerry Falwell" followers. France noted that he would like more of these types of people to be in the audience.

He added that his play is about what happens when a supposedly pluralistic society takes out after one group of "outsiders." The same "variables" of the Evacuation were present in the McCarran of the 1950's, the repression of black militants in the 1960's, and more recently, in the Vietnamese anti-Vietnamese activities in the United States.

So one of the messages that "J" delivers implies that leaders who claim to be "pro-American" with their following (such as the Califormia gubernatorial candidate in the play who spouts anti-Japanese sentiment—reflect painful adversarial feelings of people to be in the audience.

The play jumps to 1968, where Enako Shigeta (Nancy Box), her brother Taro (David Angells), her parents and her two young sisters. The family is an allegory for what the Japanese American community in the United States is fighting for and what is going to be left behind. The characters in the play struggle for justice, for a place in society, and for the recognition of their heritage.

The play is a powerful and moving depiction of the struggles of the Japanese American community during the internment period. It highlights the pain and suffering of the individuals and families affected by the internment, as well as the resilience and determination of those who fought against injustice.

The play is a must-see for anyone interested in the history of the Japanese American community and the impact of the internment on their lives. It is a powerful reminder of the importance of justice and equality for all people.
Letterbox

Is this to come?

Said

The turnout and the shouting surrounding the Commission on War
Time's Tokyo hearings in June was impressive. Citizens have stood and run
away from us. A number of Japanese have been summoned to face
vance. Foreign addresses. And U.S. & S. News is expected of
boys and girls mostly of the West Coast who came to Washington
during the hearings. Some broad

this

Don't laugh

Thank God it is the Med Perx

a way, we were to having military

as because as sure as the sun rises

the power and blood and I would

ly. Even so, I was forced to believe

the CRWIC's expected findings

and recommendations

The initial

Consider the plight of the more
glaucous and recent. Human

situation. A "gracious and un-

derstanding" nation is offering

them the minuscule sum of $12.00

per day

But worse yet some have chosen
to ridicule the JACL versus

nonJapanese... The aim is to

to finger an evacuation culprit;
a "man who had been alienated

and as it was 39 years ago when

rowing gangs of yellowface

camel self-styled camp vigilantes

attacking "jus" and "collaborators"

A question for the

militants of today: Where could

the much-needed evacuation

ship come from?

In 1941 the majority of

Nisei were teenagers and mighty

nave of the day. Many of them were

youth of today. Japanese families,

most of them 40s, comics and

actors let alone entertain thoughts

of challenging authority or question-

ning obedience.

It's simply a numerical

trick, we just didn't have the

answer to the question. Nor the

public, the American, economic

time, Hall, man, woman, no one

ever even discussed it.

And remember, too, the Ni-

seis were also the first

lawyers under fortune
courage:

Challenging of today have the

monstrous benefit of hindsight.

Shoot, any (a) American didn't

fear anyone in authority. The

policeocratic guardian
director in the manner of

rival. It has been,

as they say, "The king is

heard not only in France, but

the picture that you made for me.

You were a bit perversive to

stage a wedding scene with little

kids. Besides, the bridesmaid was
called a "yellowface" and

your bachi was to have to take all

that sewing in at home

the job, and to make all those alterations at the cleaner's.

Well, I'm sorry we ever told you.

of the sacrifices that you made for us.

Osohaku, omedeto,

The picture that you made for me.

CLIFF'S CORNER: by Dr. Clifford Uyeda

Redress

"Have you heard Judge Takasugi's statement on the Commission hear-

ings?"

I had. Just in recent years I was to

learn that we are both from Tacon,

in the State of New Hampshire.

and my leaving the West Coast back in 1936 were the reasons

we had not known each other in

Tacon. I had heard of him, but

his bold and frank assertions are valuable within the Japanese Ameri-

can community. They make us aware of the concepts we ought to

ignore.

All the Nisei Congressmen with the exception of the

Junior Senator from California are indifferent over the
great wrong done to Japanese Americans by our own Congressmen. It is

American to hear this wrong repeated. The American public in
general, however, is still today almost totally

to ignore the injustice they have done to us.

We are in the process of our redress campaign

the American public must become better informed. What the

hearings have done is to earn media coverage on the

subject as no other method could have accomplished.

We are still a long ways from realizing redress. There

are no shortcuts. But we are a step closer because

of educating the public through the hearings. The broad public

support will be most valuable in receiving eventual congressional

support—without which our redress goal will remain just a dream.

CWRC

Continued from Page 2

Books

Yoshiko Uchida's Latest

Now comes Yoshiko Uchida's

newest novel (Atherton, New

York, $19.95, 31pp.), a story

of Sachi Seko who grows up in a
closely knit Japanese American

california during a time of great

prejudice (the 1940s).

My father was a teacher for

children, earlier stories had
defined into Japanese American

experiences in Japan. Of late, her

books have been a popular

series dealing with World War II

and the "Japanese American

experience" as the war winds

(WW,Journey to Topaz," and

"Yoshiko Uchida's Through

the Lense," which the Jackson

Library has as their call number.

I asked when we could see her.

"Come as soon as you can. I

will be in the auditorium to

reception on the day she

would come tonight. She was

waiting for us.

Hearing our footsteps, she
called through the window.

"Come in, the door is unlocked." At

first glance, it was difficult to believe she

almost died a month ago. The weight loss

was not for some purpose.

Nothing could disguise the new

sharpness in her voice and

she asked if I remembered the date of her

sudden hospitalization. "The time in the hos-

pital is a fog to me." I recalled we had stopped to

take a vacuum cleaner on the way to her house.

My checkbook showed the date. Almost a month had passed. Was she also

vague about the convalescent home? "Oh no, I remember looking at my

checkbook. It was terrible. Some of the patients were

very nice. But at least half of them belonged in

an insane asylum. I felt sorry for them." And

our hearts were wrenched when the convalescent home

anymore, I've talked so much about it, I could vomit."

I suggested we talk about Nicholao. She re-

plied suddenly in a whisper,

"That's even worse." Stroking her neck, with a

face that is noticeably more delicate, she

added quietly, "I hope this is the last of the

faints." I disagreed and said she was only

smiling. Nicholas smiles and laughs a lot. We

concentrated on his good looks,

eyes sparkling, enjoying the debate.

Others came to welcome her home. It was a

spontaneous party. Although we were stran-

gers, we felt we knew each other. All of us have been

so much a part of our friend's life and

we had a common bond. She was a recent high

school graduate, who sat at our friend's feet.

Someone suggested she move to a comfortable

place far away from the neighborhood, a

lovely girl declined, saying, "No thank you, I want to stay here, closer to her." In

the soft half-light, they presented a perfect

picture, a last and final, almost anticipated reaction.

My friend sat in the largest chair, center of

the room. She was regal, a queen. There was no

sign of the conversation, only interjections of

laughter. My friend, the consummate hostess,

presided and guided the night. The festive light

of homecoming. We did not dwell on her illness.

During a small distraction, I observed the

quickness with which she slipped endless

chairs. Her eyes sparkled, enjoying the debate.

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Old Alaskan Cannery Days Recalled

by Bill Marutani

September 11, 1985

The modern-day equivalent of the cannery messhall, the kitchen at the now defunct Golden Bake Shop in Seattle. (Photo by Tom Konecki)

Cans (down with live steam) to warehouse (you labeled the chine (you fed the salmon into a machine that filled the cooking house) . . .

Hayakawa's Backlash Problem

by BOB SHIMABUKURO

(Portland JACL Newsletter)

Because of all kinds of reasons these days to the CWRC hearings, I thought I would spare everyone from another article on these hearings. However, it is extremely difficult for me to ignore Senator Alan Cranston's call to action.

For those who are not familiar the Senator from California said that although he was proud to be a Japanese American, "my flesh crawls with shame and embarrassment" because of the actions of some groups in the United States and other countries. He said that some people are only interested in making money, and that the government should not be responsible for the actions of the Japanese Americans.

First of all, I cannot think of any issue that I have been in agreement with him over the years. He is the only one who has been attacking the Chinese Americans, and the only one who has been calling for their exclusion from the United States. He is, in my opinion, the worst of the bunch.

As we all know, the Chinese Americans are the ones that are being attacked by the politicians. They are not only being attacked by the politicians, but also by the Chinese themselves. The Chinese are the ones that are being blamed for all of the problems in the country.

The fact is, the Chinese Americans are the ones that are being blamed for all of the problems in the country. They are not the ones that are causing the problems, but they are the ones that are being blamed for them.

This is why I think that Senator Alan Cranston is wrong. He is wrong in his accusations against the Chinese Americans, and he is wrong in his attacks on the government.

It is time for us to stand up and fight against the attacks on the Chinese Americans, and to demand that the government stop attacking them. We must stand up and fight for our rights, and we must demand that the government stop attacking us.
Saburo Murakoa
San Diego

Mayor Pete Wilson of San Diego proclaimed Sept. 26, 1981 as Saburo Murakoa Day. Some 300 friends, relatives, and dignitaries came to the Holiday Inn here to attend a dinner honoring this outstanding civic leader and former mayor of his native city.

Mr. Murakoa was greatly interested to be by the many tributes paid this man before the evening was over.

The Japanese Coordinating Council of San Diego sponsored the affair and San Diego JACL chapter president Mas Hiro Nakano chaired the event. Mas was in rare form that evening and some of his comments brought our chuckles and laughter from the crowd.

Mr. Murakoa's involvement to make Southern California a better place to live has long been recognized and he has received many awards, including the Order of the Pacific Ocean Merit.

In 1955, he returned to Japan and met with officials of the Yokohama city government and returned with a gift of a Japa­

nese stone lantern from the people of Yokohama to the people of San Diego. This was probably a forerunner to the San Diego- Yokohama sister city program to which he is referred to as the godfather.

The dinner was also celebrating the 25th anniversary of the stone lantern which had been placed in the San Diego Zoo.

I went to the event the following day and tried to find the stone lantern but could not. I went to the information booth and the young lady behind the counter appeared dumbfounded when I asked her about the stone lantern. When I explained further about the sister city program, she did not appear any further enlightened. I gave up and went to see the monkeys in the enclosure.

I called Hiro Nakano the following day and told him that I could not find the lantern. He told me they had not publicized its presence because of vandalism in the zoo. In fact, the zoo has armed security to guard against such vandalism and certain acts as some kids had jumped into the wolves den and got mauled.

Next time I am in San Diego I will have Mas take me to the zoo and show me where that stone lantern is.

Walt L. Jones, Oxnard, Ca.

Chapter Pulse
Ventura JACL in membership push

OXNARD, Ca.—The Ventura County Japanese American Citizens League will have a membership and renewal of membership drive meeting on Friday, Oct. 8 at 6 p.m., at the Camarillo Boys and Girls Club, 200 Tomato St., Camarillo.

Guest speaker is Warren Furuta, who will speak on "The Sansei Experience."

35 Years Ago

Continued From Page 5

OXNARD, Ca.—The Ventura County Japanese American Citizens League is still holding 432 (Tule Lake evacuees, 123 from Peru, 41 "enemy alien," 36 voluntary relatives) persons of Japanese ancestry in a concentration camp at Crystal City, Tex. Some in camp have stayed there for a year and a half.

Oct. 5—West LA residents, civil rights groups support E. Yano's right to occupy home under court order for eviction of his family last week.

Monterey JACL Hall being repainted

MONTEREY, Ca.—Clean-up and repainting the Monterey JACL Hall is expected to be finished by next week.

Among those who cannot attend can join or renew membership by mail through Mrs. J.da Yotomaki, 292 N. Main St., Monterey.

1000 Club

WALNUT, La., CA.—Does $30 per couple, $30 per single, $15 for college students, and $50 for high school students.

For further information call Je­

n Nagata (909) 483-3124. The public is invited.

APAC seeks� administrator and assistant

SACRAMENTO—Pacific American Advocates of California (APAC) is seeking qualified persons to serve its Sacramento office, which is projected to begin opera­

tion in January 1982, according to Allan Sekiguchi, president of APAC.

The Executive Director will be the chief staff person for APAC and will have full day-to-day activi­

ties of the organization (duties in­
clude leadership, management of office, analysis of legislation and dissemination of information to Asian Pacific American Communi­

ties) and will have an annual salary of $26,000. Closing date: Oct. 20.

The Assistant Administrator will have wide responsibilities for the operations of the Sacra­

mento APAC office, and will have an annual salary of $16,300. Closing date: Nov. 15.

The Executive Director’s posi­

tion is full-time, year-round, wide travel, and both positions require a minimum of one year’s work experience. For information and application contact: APAC Per­

sonnel Committee, c/o Vernon Yonehara, 3195 Colorado Blvd., Sacramento, California 95816.

FRESNO, Ca.—The California First Bank, 17-Dr Fred Fukuji, Ltd., has been selected to receive a Gold Medal from the American Institute of Architects at its Midwinter Meeting in Los Angeles March 2-6, 1982.

The Gold Medal is presented to an architect or a group of architects who has been responsible for a particularly distinguished building design that has made an outstanding contribution to American architecture.

The bank is 1 of 3 institutions and 3 individuals designated to receive Gold Medals.

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October 9, 1981 • PACIFIC CITIZEN—7

Hobbyist returns '47 Ronin' sword

LOS ANGELES—A samurai sword once owned by Yoshida Kanesuke, one of the 47 of Chushingura fame, was returned Oct. 2 by bounty hunter Gerald Wilda of Lomita to its rightful owner, the Shogun's Temple, Tokyo, in a ceremony at the Japa­

nese Cultural Center.

The sword was awarded in November 1964, Wilda, who collects Japanese

swords, came across it at an auction that year.

Koto music set for Huntington

Library

SAN MARINO—Ma–Chudi Sangas, president of the program of koto music in the Ja­

panese house of Huntington Li­

brary, Art Gallery and Botanical Gardens located at 110 N. Oxford Rd., was
to Monday, October 3 at 1:30 and 2:30 p.m.

According to Kamiko Sugisaki, a

reader at the Huntington Library and a professor at Oberlin College, Tokyo, Ma–Chudi is one of the most prominent koto players in Japan.

Support Our Advertisers

PC PEOPLE

• Awards

San Francisco police officer Rod

Nobuhito was awarded a bronze

medal of valor at a local police

commission meeting Sept. 16 for

taking a bashing from a knife-wielding

robber in May. Nobuhito joined the force in

February of last year and is part of the

SFPD's Southeast Station.

• Business

Japan born Tommy Itami has

been appointed domestic director

of Far East sales for Hiltons Hotel

Corp., according to James C. Cal­

lin, senior vice president of mar­

keting, to service the Far East travel

agents, wholesalers and U.S.

based operators. He will be

working at the membership

of the National Sales regional

offices in New York and California. He was

formerly director of Far East sales

in Los Angeles.

• Government

Chun–China~ Jia Chang, Bluch, no­

ominated by President Reagan

and confirmed by the U.S. Senate,

was sworn in Sept. 30 as assistant

administrator for food for peace

and voluntary assistance in the

Agency for International Develop­

ment, Washington, D.C. Her fam­

ily came to the U.S. in 1953 and set­

tled in San Francisco. She gradu­

ated in communication and pub­

colleges, author of Tea, and a member of the Tokyo Bar Association.

The sword was removed in

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man of the publications com­

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and some services, as well as the

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cicces and international or­

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organizations. Must have experience with public officials. Apply by Oct. 30, 1981 to

ASSEMBLY: Ann-Marie York, 301 1st St., San Francisco, CA 94103.

APAC (Asian Pacific American Coalition) 15120 S. Western Ave., Gardena, CA. 90248.

Nisei Services of America 20500 Mission Blvd., Hayward, CA.

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Nisei Services of America 20500 Mission Blvd., Hayward, CA.
Mrs. Kato's Class

Berkeley, Ca.

About a year ago I visited an unusual, and probably unique, class for seniors. The Su- kunan Koisscab, an action of the East Bay Japanese for the Teenagers of Berkeley, Calif. Fif- teen or sixteen women in the high seventies and mid-eighties were rehashing their long unused skill in composition, and with the kindly tutelage of Mrs. Mine Kato, a (former) teacher of Obon music, one of the eldest of girls' high schools in Tokyo, were now engaged in long

with one quarter the verbiage, and you can agree that creative writing, did not at

this agree that the basic

lul noon). JACL Headquar ters Oct. 17

• OCT. 17

II

{OCR}

JAPAN'S Two-World War

II

Anniversary

JAN. 17, 1981

II

Mrs. Kato, a (former) teacher of Obon music, one of the eldest of girls' high schools in Tokyo, were now engaged in long-ago skills in composition, and with the kindly tutelage of

issue. One had a long line of heredity anomalies to the shogun's government (the original is a little unclear as to which officials they were amenable to) on the paternal side, and a lady in waiting to one of the shogun's lesser wives as a grandmama. Two of them came to America as first class passengers. One began her American life in a house of her own and had a maid. They were well educated by the day's standard. At least one read Pufkhec, a middle to high brow women's magazine, somewhat on the same intellectual level as Century, Harper's, and Atlantic Monthly.

Unsurprisingly there is a certain sameness to all the stories, except two. The writers share pretty much the same sort of experience. They tried to cover their long lifetimes in a straightforward, beginning to end narrative. Some give a few incidents and details of their early lives which are interesting even to me who has lived more than sixty years in America, but there are not nearly enough of them. The services. "A Voyage Across the Pacific", and "Anguishes of a Mother with Military Age Sons" take the short story approach, limiting their stories to single episodes of their lives.

Probably these two offer a suggestion as to how future collections of autobiographies may be improved. Why can't they focus on their efforts in some single stories, incidents, or persons? In other words, why can't they write short stories? They will be literature in their own right. Some Japanese writers have been writing so many stories of the Japanese immigrants from sket- chy observations and hurries. One was made into a TV series which got many old timers' backs up because it was so untrue. It is about time more literati and early writers wrote the true stories of their lives.

I understand that Mrs. Kato's class is still going strong, and is preparing a second book. I offered the gratuitous suggestion in the hope there will be other classes like it which will encourage the seniors to commit to writing their precious experience which will be forgotten one day.

And I hope the PC readers will remember this little article, for East Bay Japanese for Action is planning to have the book translated into English. In spite of all its shortcomings it is a worthy book. I confess I had arrived at several passages.

Aged population in Japan increasing TOKYO—Percentage of people over age 65 in Japan has almost doubled in a generation, from 4.9% in 1947 to 9.6% in 1980, the Prime Minister's Office revealed. But it is still less than in some Western

nations where such percentages range between 10 and 15%. (The 1977 U.S. Census estimated it at 13.6% to be exceeded by 16%.)

In numbers, Japan has 10,9 million aged persons. Oldest person is Shigeo Morita, 115, of Kagoshima-ken who made news Sept. 15 (109 days short of his 116th birthday) when Prime Minister Nakasone met him and the U.S. quadraplant who were born in March, 1980. Noted for the longevity of its elders, Japan now has 1,027 centenarians—no other country has more than 1,000 persons 100 years old and over. Average life span of the Japanese is the longest in the world with men living 73.32 years and women 78.83 years, the Daily Yomiuri pointed out.

Suenken Car ship yielding no treasure NAGASAKI—A year has passed since salvagers started operations to raise the 682-ton Car ship cras hered at Tabuga Islands dur ing the Russo-Japanese war but no treasure has been recovered. Myo- ichi Sasaki was told.

Suking, (grand marshal of the 1980 Nisei Week parade) is presi dent of the Japan Shipbuilding Foundation, said of the salvage operation expected to cost over 7 million yen. About 30% of the cruiser has been searched, yielding brass spoons, ammunition, lamps and other minor items.

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