CRWIC HEARINGS: WASHINGTON

Michener, Masaoka testify at CRWIC hearing

WASHINGTON—World-famous author James A. Michener and his co-author Masaoka Shungo, longtime JACL secretary and Washington representative (1941-1972), were scheduled to testify this week (Nov. 2-3) before the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians in the Senate Caucus Room.

(A complete report of the CRWIC hearings will appear in the next issue — Ed.)

Michener, whose works on Asian Pacific cultures are well-known, has been critical of the U.S. government's decision to evacuate and intern Japanese Americans during World War II. In his introduction to Michi Weglyn's book, "Years of Infamy," he said:

"...leaders, having used unconstitutional means to treat our Japanese American citizens as they did in 1942, were half-inured to such treatment of any minority, anywhere, so that later on when Admiral William Leahy submitted his infamous recommend..."
Silence Snapped
San Francisco
As we approach the last of the regularly scheduled hearings of the Commission on War Relocation and Internment of Civilians, it's worth taking a moment's pause to reflect on what has taken place in the past year. The Commission hearings have had a major event in the sometimes difficult history of Japanese Americans.

For those of us who, during the Second World War, the American public in general has been told the story of the evacuation, many never having been aware of this particular episode in our nation's history. And for the first time, the government—through the commission—has embarked on an official investigation of the events that led to the existence of America's concentration camps. It has taken forty years to reach this point, and it is of no small importance that so many have played such an important role in a drama whose denouement, whose final resolution, may have profound implications for the future of this country.

The many testimonies have been the same before the Commission and bored their souls, who shared their anguish and heartbreaks and even their joys. What has contributed perhaps more than they can imagine, for the evacuation was not theirs alone but a nation's partial catharsis for the wrong it committed against its own guiltless people. The facts were, in fact, even if only briefly, and to question what lay at its heart. One need only to have sat through just one day of any of the hearings to realize this. It was evident on the faces of the Commissioners and of the audience, and it was evident in the manner in which the hearings were reported by the media.

But what one realized instead was the strength of these people who came before the Commission, with what sense of pride and dignity they faced the Commission, and in so doing, faced their own history. There was no sense of degradation at the baring of souls (as some of our critics warned there would be) or at the exhuming of even just a part of the past that has suffocated the Japanese American community these forty years. There was too much dignity in the stories of the witnesses to even suggest a lessening of who and what they were. There was too much courage.

There was no empty rhetoric among the Issei and the Nisei witnesses. Their pragmatism did not abandon them before the Commission. Their testimonies were straightforward and simple, but within that simplicity lay the varied and complex emotions that emerged in the retelling and reliving of the world of those days. There was, of course, a repetition of the same story many times over, but this served to more clearly define the magnitude of human suffering. And even the lighter moments had in them a quality of the bitterness. There was, after, all laughter behind barbed wire, but the barbed wire was always there.

And so witness after witness told his or her own story, personal hardships and personal tragedies, in accumulated accounts of a people in exile. And for the first time in forty years, a record was clearly being written about the injustice of the Evacuation. The silence of four decades was finally broken.

Barrows speaks on WRA before CWRIC
Testimonies of Earl Barrows, a top administrative official with the War Relocation Authority, first under Milton Eisenhower and then Dillon Myer, present the basic facts before the Commission. Testimonies were transmitted from the transcripts of July 16 sessions in the Senator Caucus Room.

Mr. Barrows:
What made the Denver Post series more important was the fact that the Dies Committee at that time organized a subcommittee headed by Congressman Costello of California, and he began a series of hearings in which—well, he held nine meetings to begin with in Lander, Wyoming, and at the last of each day was a press announcement, inflammatory, sensational, and often based upon the sort of material he could get from the military. But again, the Dies Committee relied on some of the employees who had been discharged from one of the centers.

At that time also the Hearst press station man in Washington solely for the purpose of batting these stories around, and every day we would have a story from the Committee and another story in the Hearst papers. Against what the Committee had said the day before, so they played everything as many times as they could; and we in the authority practised all our time trying to run down the facts, hoping some day per chance to answer the charges. Ultimately that was given in a hearing here in Washington, of which was on the whole pretty well a fair hearing. From our point of view there might be people definitely pro-Japanese but very few, and it should have been handled on a basis of individual evaluation as it ultimately was.

The hearing was held and therefore WRA could not resist it. The idea was that the people of the community, and so the administration, had come to rely upon the community councils and the social structure of the evacuation centers, for the ordinary maintenance of order and discipline, and good operations, that it didn't exist in time that that had been destroyed. Well, one other thing, on July 1, 1944 a law was passed permitting people, citizens of this country to renounce their citizenship, and although it was couched in general language, it was clearly intended for the Japanese Americans, and the Justice Department took over the administration of that. They went into the center late in the year, WRA was unhappy about it but couldn't do anything about it really. And nearly 5,000 people signed renunciation applications.

Later hearings were given and so in the end only 4,000 people Tule Lake were actually transported to Japan. But outside the center the whole affair put us back on the West Coast from the previous point of view only, square 1.

The Dies Committee had resumed its investigation, the California military police were called in and took over the center, and they administered it for two months. WRA didn't take charge again until mid-January 1944, and although it gradually was able to restore a measure of community confidence and trust, it was faced with the fact that the community was split into factions between those who were genuinely desirous of being Japanese, and those who had merely elected segregation to avoid the draft or avoid moving or just because they didn't want to move.

I would say that the reason for the incident—I'll just make this observation, in the first of all the divided nature of the community, and second the fact that the Administration had come to rely upon the community councils and the social structure of the evacuation centers, for the ordinary maintenance of order and discipline, and good operations, that it didn't exist in time that that had been destroyed. Well, one other thing, on July 1, 1944 a law was passed permitting people, citizens of this country to renounce their citizenship, and although it was couched in general language, it was clearly intended for the Japanese Americans, and the Justice Department took over the administration of that. They went into the center late in the year, WRA was unhappy about it but couldn't do anything about it really. And nearly 5,000 people signed renunciation applications.

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BARROWS Continued from Previous Page

Iowa legislature conducted an investigation, certain local congressmen conducted their own, and what really hurt WRA was to be embarrassed so badly by the San Francisco Chronicle, which up to then had been only our journalistic support in California. Clearly WRA had become a hot political issue, it couldn't simply ignore what was happening, so early in November, the acting Office of the President, it needed to be in a cabinet department, and there were people who wanted to put it in Justice or wherever.

The President chose to put it in the Department of the Interior. Obviously, this was a hot issue to the President, but I also think he knew what kind of man the Secretary was. In any event, we went in there— I'm sure we were looked over, and perhaps the President or someone told you about that— but in any case we were supported by the Secretary and the Under Secretary.

So following the 1st of January 1944 WRA could begin to concentrate on a basic job of relocation, and it worked hard on that, taking great advantage of the work of the Nisei soldiers in the Armed Forces and American和其他s to talk about the several thousand who were also serving in the Pacific, we couldn't talk about that all the war was over.

And in the process of relocation, the population was disseminated, some into every one of the 48 states except South Carolina.
For a couple with this personal commitment, the simplicity of life and the long and hard, as well as the year-end giving are important material factors. The membership and leadership of the organization group to focus on a significant understanding of the finances of the organization over the long haul, as well as the year-end giving is a material financial factor. The membership and leadership of the organization group to focus on a significant understanding of the finances of the organization over the long haul, as well as the year-end giving is a material financial factor. The membership and leadership of the organization group to focus on a significant understanding of the finances of the organization over the long haul, as well as the year-end giving is a material financial factor. The membership and leadership of the organization group to focus on a significant understanding of the finances of the organization over the long haul, as well as the year-end giving is a material financial factor. The membership and leadership of the organization group to focus on a significant understanding of the finances of the organization over the long haul, as well as the year-end giving is a material financial factor.
The Heart Mountain reunion isn’t unique. Ex-inmates of other camps have held reunions and from what I’ve heard, a good time was had by all. As with other reunions, the atmosphere was joyful, although few who attended could help but remain vigilant of the memories associated with their experiences. It might have been more pleasant if the weather had cooperated, but it was what was to be expected. We brought our own food and were able to enjoy the outdoor activities without being too cold.

The event was well-organized and included a variety of activities to keep everyone engaged. However, there were some who felt that the event was too much of a business-like affair, and that the personal stories associated with the experience of internment were not being adequately shared. I believe that the organizers did a good job of balancing the need for formal speeches with opportunities for personal sharing, and that the event was successful in bringing together former inmates and their families to honor the memory of those who were affected by the internment camps.

As a former inmate, I was happy to be able to attend and share stories with others who had similar experiences. It was a powerful experience to be able to connect with others who understood the pain and suffering that came with internment. I hope that the next Heart Mountain reunion will continue to bring people together and allow for a sharing of stories and experiences that can help us all better understand this dark chapter in American history.
CCDC endorses APAC as group
FRESNO, CA — The Central Califor nia District Council of Labor Advocates (CCDC), representing hundreds of American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) local unions, is endorsing Asian Pacific American Advocates of California (APAC) for the 1981 CA
district legislature. APAC is the largest membership-based organization for Asian Pacific Americans.
APAC is a volunteer-driven, non-partisan, non-profit educational group to advocate for Asian American interests and issues in the state legislature.

INSURANCE
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signed to designate benefits that are offered by JACL. The provision is in place so that for an insurance-type plan, discount benefits can be offered by a health care provider. In most cases, the benefit is as good as or better than what is currently offered, but there are a few benefits that are either superior or are not found in our present plan:

1. Room and Board: Semi-private.
2. Deductible: $100 with a maximum of 2 per family.
3. Accident: $500 per no deductible or co-insurance.
4. Shop Loss: 80% to $2,000, then 100% to $10,000.
5. S. Ray and Lab: Full coverage for accident. Hospital coverage for accident.
6. Maternity: $1,000 to $1,000. Hospital: $100 to doctor for normal delivery. Complications of pregnancy are covered as a disability.
7. Well Baby Care: Full coverage after deductible and co-insurance.

Milwaukee JACL, to hold redress fundraising party
MILWAUKEE — The JACL Milwaukee Chapter will hold a redress fundraising dinner party on September 9, 1981 at 6 p.m. at the Service Woods Lodge on 8424 N. 30th St. The banquet is being held to raise money to pay for the Chicago hearings in September which will speak and open discussions on the hearings and redress will be held. Space is limited (100 persons), interested persons should send their reservations of $10.00 per person made out to Julius Fujihara, 5806 S. 33rd Court, Milwaukee, WIs. 53220.

Sonora CL board to answer Joiner
SAN ANTONIO, TX — The Sonoma County JACL board discussed at length the recent Erment Joiner column against redress appearing Sept. 9 in the Sebastopol Times and will formally answer the half-truths and omission of important facts regarding the San Francisco parking authority, chair of Woodland Park Development Com. Barbara Taniwaki, in a press, Dr. Raymond Watanabe, Drainage Comm. of Yucaipa, and Sen. Ikuma, Dr. S. Sato.

Pacifica: money talks
PACIFICA — When money, in the form of tax dollars, is used to subsidize public broadcasting, is the public's voice heard? This question is being employed by the Pacifica Institute in the current campaign for public radio.

United Ways
UNITED WAYS
Support the Japanese American Community Services By Designating Your United Way Donations To THE LITTLE TOKYO SERVICE CENTER And/or THE JAPANESE COMMUNITY PIONEER CENTER

All savers certificates... Tax-Free interest.

MONEY MARKET CERTIFICATES
At California First Bank.
When you invest a minimum of $10,000 for 6 months, your money earns the highest commercial bank rate of interest allowed by law.* To find out more, come and meet the people* at California First.
Buddhist temple in D.C. area to open
SPRINGFIELD, Va.—Bao, the first Ju-Jitsu Buddhist Temple in the D.C. area, will be dedicated on Sunday, Nov. 6 from 3 to 5 p.m. in the parlor area between Rollie Hall and Campbell on campus representing sentiments from various universi
tes around the nation will discuss ad

What’s happening:

**November 6 (Friday)**
- HIRAI Kenji, Japanese cultural center at UCLA, will lecture on “The Way of the Samurai” at 8 p.m. at the Japanese Cultural Center, 2580 California St., N.W.

**November 7 (Saturday)**
- **Inaugural Bicycle Race**
  - 3-Hour Guided Bicycle Tour
  - 10th Anniversary of the North American Buddhist Education Foundation

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**November 12 (Thursday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**November 14 (Saturday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**November 20 (Friday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**November 24 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**November 27 (Thursday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**November 29 (Saturday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**December 2 (Friday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**December 8 (Friday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**December 21 (Friday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**December 23 (Sunday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**December 30 (Sunday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**January 2 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**January 23 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**January 30 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**February 6 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**February 13 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**February 20 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**February 27 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**March 6 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**March 13 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**March 20 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**March 27 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**April 2 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**April 9 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**April 16 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**April 23 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**April 30 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**May 7 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**May 14 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**May 21 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**May 28 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**June 4 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**June 11 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**June 18 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**June 25 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**July 2 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**July 9 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**July 16 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**July 23 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**July 30 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**August 6 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**August 13 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**August 20 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**August 27 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**September 3 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**September 10 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**September 17 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**September 24 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**October 1 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**October 8 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**October 15 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**October 22 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**October 29 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**November 5 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**November 12 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**November 19 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**November 26 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**December 3 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**December 10 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**December 17 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**December 24 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**

**December 31 (Tuesday)**
- **“Kokoro” Movie**