Fifth in a Series

BY PERI IMAMURA

On this 40th anniversary of Executive Order 9066, it is well worth reviewing the decree which affected the lives of 120,000 persons living on the West Coast in 1942. Although President Franklin D. Roosevelt did not specifically mention Japanese Americans or foreigners, it granted discretionary powers to the Secretaries of War (Henry L. Stimson) and all military commanders under him, allowing these officials to essentially single out persons of Japanese ancestry.

EO 9066 read as follows:

"WHEREAS, The successful prosecution of the war requires every possible protection against espionage and against sabotage to national-defense material, national-defense premises and national-defense utilities as defined in Section 6, Act of April 30, 1918, 40 Stat. 333, as amended by the Act of November 30, 1940, 54 Stat. 1226, and the Act of August 11, 1941, 55 Stat. 655 (U.S.C. Title 59, Sec. 194).

THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the United States, and Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy, I hereby authorize and direct the Secretary of War, and the Military Commanders whom he may from time to time designate, as well as any designated Commander, to determine in his discretion the purpose for which any or all persons may be excluded and with respect to which, the right of any such person to be heard shall be at whatever restriction the Secretary of War or the appropriate Military Commander may impose in his discretion. The Secretary of War is hereby authorized and directed to provide for residents of any such area who are excluded therefrom such transportation, food, shelter and other accommodations as may be necessary, in the judgment of the Secretary of War or the said Military Commander, and until other arrangements are made, to accomplish the purpose of this order. The designations of military areas in any region or locality shall supersede designations of prohibited and restricted areas by the Attorney General under the Proclamations of December 7 and 8, 1941, and shall supersede the responsibility and authority of the Attorney General under the said Proclamations in respect of such prohibited and restricted areas.

I hereby further authorize and direct the Secretary of War and the said Military Commanders to take other steps as he or the appropriate Military Commander may deem advisable to enforce compliance with the restrictions applicable to such military areas hereinafter authorized, including, but not limited to, such designation of Federal troops and other Federal Agencies, with authority to accept assistance of state and local agencies. I further authorize and direct all Executive Department independent establishments and other Federal Agencies, to assist the Secretary of War or the said Military Commanders in carrying out this Executive Order, including the furnishing of medical aid, hospitalization, food, clothing, transportation, use of land, shelter, and other supplies.

This order shall not be construed as modifying or limiting in any way the authority already granted under Executive Order No. 9062, dated December 12, 1941, nor shall it be construed as limiting or modifying the duty and responsibility of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, with respect to the investigations of alleged acts of sabotage or the duty and responsibility of the Attorney General and the Department of Justice under the Proclamations of December 7 and 8, 1941, prescribing regulations for the conduct and control of alien enemies, except as such duty and responsibility is superseded by the designation of military areas hereunder."

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

The White House, February 19, 1942

According to the Final Report on the evacuation and relocation of Japanese Americans from the West Coast (Chapter III), the officials who executed the order carefully narrowed down the "any or all persons" provision of it. Secretary of War Stimson, in a letter to Gen. John L. DeWitt dated Feb. 20, 1942, ordered the military commander to, for the most part, leave persons of Italian ancestry alone when executing E.O. 9066.

In carrying out your duties under this delegation, I desire, so far as military requirements permit, that you do not disturb, for the time being at least, Italian aliens and persons of Italian lineage except where they are, as hereafter determined, undesirable for the performance of your mission to defend the West Coast. I ask that you take this action in respect to Italians for the reason that I consider such persons less dangerous than those of other enemy nationalities. Because of the size of the Italian population and the number of Italian aliens and persons of Italian lineage, I believe it will be desirable to exempt them, their inclusion in the general plan would greatly overtour our strength.

Assistant Secretary of War John J. McCloy also issued a memorandum on that same date to DeWitt, which suggested that German and Japanese Americans, as well as American citizens of Japanese ancestry but not German Americans, be excluded from designated "military areas".

For the purpose of these instructions, persons resident in the Western Provinces will be classified as under:

Class 1 Japanese Aliens

Class 2 German Aliens

Class 3 Japanese Aliens

Class 4 Any person, whether citizen or alien, who is suspected for any reason or your own or your racial origin, as being actually or potentially dangerous as a saboteur, espionage agent, labor agitator, saboteur or subversive person.

Class 5 Persons who are, or who may be within the Western Defense Command.

I suggest the advisability of the following course of action:

One of the chapters in Bill Hosomeka's forthcoming book on the history of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL), "JACL: In Quest of Justice" (Morrow & Co., New York), is available for us to see that the book is about to be released and become available at the forthcoming National JACL Convention hosted by Gardena Valley JACL—Editor.
E.O. 9066

"The progressive designation of you as an American military area throughout the Western Defense Command of such extent and in such places as you deem necessary to provide the maximum protection from sabotage and espionage as may be determined by your Commander in Chief, with immediate availability for evacuation and the military responsibilities attendant upon evacuation and relocations of large numbers of personnel."

Where necessary, in your judgment, the designation of protective zones within the military areas referred to above, in which you will provide for the exclusion of all persons in Classes 1, 2, and 3, and where in your judgment it is essential, and (b) for the exclusion of person in Classes 2 and 3, and where in your judgment it is essential.

We have been advised by the Secretary of War that he will exert every effort to sabotage and installation to vital the war effort, consistent with the military responsibilities attendant upon such evacuation, via, the number of persons to be evacuated from training for combat and from other missions, the fulfillment of which is your responsibility.

And in all matters of evacuation, only persons of Japanese ancestry were mentioned.

...of appropriate restrictive regulations governing the conduct of you, your employees, the employees of the several executive departments and federal agencies, for not more than one year, and for both, for each offense.

Although McCoy's memorandum also specified that the order should be provided with "special shelters" as well as food, housing, and medical facilities, the testimony by several hundred witnesses during last year's Commission on Wartime Relocation and Intermarriage of Civilian Japanese American Hearings indicated that they had been "filtered down," in a sense, resulting in unnecessary human suffering.

McCoy asked DeWitt to provide "for the protection of the property, particularly the physical property, of evacuees." But even WRA Director Dillon Myer's book "Up Your Sleeves!" offered no guidance for property safeguards whatever for several weeks after evacuation was a foregone conclusion. E.O. 9066, as DeWitt pointed out in the Final Report, eventually led to congressional legislation Public Law 76-500, which permitted any person violating the restriction and exclusion orders to a fine of not to exceed $5,000 or imprisonment for not more than one year, or both, for each offense.

The rest is history.

Membership response still strong

LINDASY, Ca. -- Tom Shima, a member of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) in Stockton and one of the more than 100,000 members of the organization, said he was encouraged by the response of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) members to the recent tragic events in Japan.

"I am certain that support will give us more protection. In the future, we need to take care of our duties in the coming decade."

(The Pacific Citizen will print the remainder of the Jan. 29, 2002 "Donations received" list on our desk in the next issue, when more space will be available. —Editor.)

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Say's Another Reviewer

James Oda's "Heroic Struggles of Japanese Americans" is a well-written, accurate account of the injustices suffered by Japanese Americans. Through his book, he reveals the heroism that the Japanese American community showed during World War II.

The book is divided into parts, each describing a different aspect of the community's struggle. The first part covers the internment of Japanese Americans in the West Coast, where many families were forced to leave their homes and businesses.

In the second part, Oda discusses the experiences of Japanese Americans in the military. He details the discrimination they faced and the challenges they faced to prove their loyalty to the United States.

The third part of the book covers the post-war period, where Japanese Americans faced further challenges, including the redlining practices that prevented them from owning homes and accessing other resources.

Overall, "Heroic Struggles of Japanese Americans" is a comprehensive and well-written account of the challenges faced by Japanese Americans during World War II. It is a must-read for anyone interested in the history of Japanese Americans and the struggles they faced. The book also serves as a reminder of the importance of remembering the injustices suffered by this community and the role they played in America's history.
MARINA DEL REY, Ca. — The special admissions program for Asian American students applying to UCLA Law School will remain intact for another year, Marina JACL president Edward Goka stated: “The Admissions Committee has decided not to propose any changes in the special admissions program this year until we have more experience on the subject.”

Warren also stated in his letter: “I don’t think we have anything to debate about. The percentage of Asian students at UCLA is 17% at the undergraduate level. At Berkeley, the number of Asian students in law school grows each year—and they are very good students.”

A recommendation to eliminate the special admissions program, which modified standard admission procedures for Japanese, Chinese and Korean ancestry students, had been under consideration and was expected to be acted upon by the Law School’s Admissions Committee Feb. 5.

The issue had particular significance because at least one half of all Nikkei lawyers had been admitted to the bar since 1961. Nearly one out of every two people of Asian ancestry students, had been under consideration and was expected to be acted upon by the Law School’s Admissions Committee Feb. 5.

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35 Years Ago
In the Pacific Citizen

February 22, 1947

_Feb. 13-San Francisco Union-RP lo­ses to CIO-PAC hand-on candidate in West Hawaii special election for Territorial House seat; district has Japanese American voter majori­ty and indications are that Ikeda will win by a margin of 1,000 votes.

Feb. 7-First papers issued by U.S. District Court, San Francisco, to Ijssel applicant (Takahide Takagi) for naturalization.

Feb. 1-11-LA county sheriff swears in first Nisei deputy (Stanley Ume, 24).


Feb. 15-Report 600 stranded Ni­kelet in Japan cleared for return to U.S.; all carefully screened, U.S. cons­ul ats Alexander Johnson says in To­kyo: "Shipping space in ships is short supply.

Feb. 15-Nise-Japan chambers organize Pacific Southwest Dist.; elect Henry Sakeni (Couselli) chairman.

Feb. 16-C. Council for Civic Unity 30 organizations recommend that the current anti-Japanese evacuation claims bill, seek alien land law amendment to protect Ni­seki property rights.

Feb. 17-House Un-American Activities' Hearings seeks bilingual paper printed parallel English translations or be denied at class privilege cuts.

Feb. 18-Undertaken body found in Newcastle tunnel not Japanese. concatenate to be transferred to police, believed to be a cause.

Feb. 20-Nisei woman employee among 15 killed in Los Angeles O'­ Connor hospital plant explo­

Shucks, Bobby... Quinny would have done less.

Disadvantages of Being a Dog

Salt Lake City

We will be lucky to survive this year.

Nicholas has been impossible since he learned that 1982 is the Year of the Dog. It has gone straight to his head. He has always been aware of his superior quali­ties, but to have them so publicly extolled to him is another thing. At the end of each sen­tence, he nodded his head in affirmation.

No wonder so many humans have said that they would gladly exchange places with him. The finest traits are found in dogs.

To all appearances, it isn't a bad life. His room is probably nicer than some. It is decorated with framed art posters, a stained glass window, and a bed with Marimekko designer sheets and a monogrammed blanket. There is a reg­ular laundry service. Twice a day, his meals are prepared and delivered to him. He is a fuzzy eater, requiring com­panionship while he chews, morsels by slow morsel. At night, he invites himself to table with humans. Pushy dog. Most of the day, he is not in his room. He has the run of the house and the yard. The living room is his favorite place. In the sum­mer, he sleeps on the screen in pursuit of quail. Occasionally, he runs away. He sneaks back into the house and sits in the scolding corner. Running away is worth every bit of hu­man wrath. He has a marvelous time.

From this description, it is understand­able that humans would like to be Nicho­las. They forget the disadvantages of being a dog. Most places are inaccessible to him. Signs post their menacing warn­ings, "No dogs allowed." They are de­ fined visiting privileges. However, I think I have figured out a way of getting around that. I will dress Nicholas in one of my son's warm-up suits and if anyone should try to stop us, I will say, "My son thinks he's a dog." When I conceived this somewhat innovative idea, my family received it dubiously. Spoisports. Hasn't the inequity occurred to anyone? People can want to be dogs, but dogs can't want to be people.

Perhaps there is some rule that says only humans are entitled to be discontent with their lot. We want to be someone or something else. Whenever anyone says he would like to be Nicholas, I recall a Chinese saying that may seem totally unre­lated to you. My muses run on crooked tracks, making crazy connections. Yet, I think my analogy may not be so incom­prehensible to those of you who were old enough to know in 1942. The same era when I "Am Chinese" buttons were worn by some who were and a few who were not.

Forty years ago, as we were preparing to be evacuated from our house in Cali­fornia, we heard an urgent pounding at the door. The Iseki woman was in tears. She had no money for the gas to turn off our sump pumps and our uniforms and medication. All her shoes were packed. That morning, she discovered her mulitled daughter. The young girl had run away. She saw her face. "I stopped her before she could take the scissors to her eyes. She said she could not bear to be Japanese anymore."

A Look Ahead

Washington

As the second session of the 97th Congress begins, the congressional election campaign be­comes ever-present in the minds of House and Senate members.

Certainly, unemployment, recess­ion, inflation and consumer confidence are major problems that threaten people of intense debate in the Congress and with the constituents.

During this same period, the CRWIC will be completing its mandate fact-finding responsibilities under Public Law 96-137, passed in the 96th Congress, as well as with recommendations based on all of the evidence they have received and discovered over the past months.

By far the most troubling issue to be resolved by the Congress is the determination of appropriate remed­ies. At public forums, Commissioners have indicated that the determination of just and equitable remedies are the most difficult and important task before the body.

For the JACL and the Japanese American commu­nity, the Commission report will have a substantial effect on the future legislative programs and activities of the organization.

The JACL redress chair Min Yasui and the JACL re­dress coordinator John Tateishi will be seeking your advice and recommendation regarding the fashioning of appropriate remedies for Japanese Americans and determine what participation in and support of the collective understanding and determination of JACL's position on Redress remedies.
School Discipline in Tokyo Falling

Denver, Colo.

A large part of Japanese American community life on the West Coast prior to World War II was the language schools. Most Issei parents still harbored the notion in those days that eventually they would be going back to Japan. The United States denied them citizenship. The worrysome thing about this thought was that their Nisei children were learning to be Americans in the public schools. What would happen when they went to Japan only a rudimentary form of the language spoken there? In Japan, the military schools held classes, paying tuition out of their meager incomes. MQSt of the language schools held teachers for the classrooms, paying tuition out of their misses.

So the Issei organized language schools and hired teachers for the classrooms, paying tuition out of their meager incomes. Most of the language schools held classes late in the afternoon after public school was dismissed. That didn't go over very well with the kids. Their Jewish and black and Mexican and other friends went off to play after the last bell; the Japanese kids had to go to school all over again.

The inevitable result was resentment. Many youngsters resisted learning. Only the most earnest, compliant and ambitious got much out of the classes. The fact that only about 7 percent of Nisei men tested by the Army in World War II knew enough of the language to qualify for enrollment in the military schools says something of the quality of the schooling.

Under such circumstances discipline in the language schools was a major problem. Truancy was only a minor problem. The main problem was often getting into punching matches with the mothers and housewives who had been recruited to run the classrooms. And invariably the recalcitrant kids, when they were let out of parades by the principal, were reminded that children in Japan were obedient and well-behaved, and what a terrible thing it was that the American influence had made the Nisei so unruly.

All this came back to mind recently while reading a report on contemporary school problems by Eiko Fukuda, a Japanese journalist who specializes in social issues. "Violence is spreading in both urban and rural secondary schools," she writes, "and hardly a day now goes by without accounts of students defacing classrooms, fighting among themselves and even beating up teachers. In Tokyo alone last year, for example, more than 100 schools reported incidents of student misconduct, which is currently at its highest level since the end of World War II. Government authorities have reacted by imposing tighter controls. Among other things, police now patrol schools to protect teachers and maintain order."

What's at the root of the problem? Fukuda reports that Japanese follow the Confucian ethic in which the respected father or husband rules. But an education is breaking down as fathers, caught up in the race for success, are absent from home much of the time and working mothers neglect their children.

"In this highly competitive society," Fukuda writes, "youngsters are being inculcated with the idea of schooling as an avenue for achievement rather than as an educational experience. Those who fall behind are branded 'losers,' and they frequently turn to violence in their frustration. Studies show that the majority of juvenile delinquents came from middle class families that lean on their children to score well in the constant examinations that determine their future."

There are many similarities as well as differences in school problems in the United States at large, and in the Japan of today. This is another field where the two countries can join in an effort to find answers to a serious mutual concern.

The Complexities of Communicating

Philadelphia

In a column last year we commented on the complexities of pronouncing Polish names, including that of the leader of Solidarity, Lech Walesa which is pronounced "Vah-Ien-sah". I've been seeing the name of the differences once I start to think about it, there are a lot of English words which are aberrations or seemingly inconsistent.

Imagine yourself as being exposed to the English language for the first time in your life and trying to fathom some rules of pronunciation and grammar. If "ough" is pronounced as in "through" then why is not "through" pronounced as "throuf"? Reminds me of the proposition confronted to me as a child: if the plural of "mouse" is "mice" and the plural of "house" is "houses" then how come the plural of "house" isn't "hice"? I toyed around with it as a child. I still don't know the answer.

To continue: if the plural of "box" is "boxes" why then does more than one ox become "oxen" instead of "oxes"? Well you get the idea. As there was a bit of a language English language is one of the most difficult languages to learn properly.

Then there are those words, while spelled differently and mean different things, are yet pronounced the same, or nearly the same. Example: see, so, sow, the last meaning to scatter seeds on the ground. However, if this last word is a reference to an adult female hog, then the pronunciation (rhymes with "how") again differs.

If all this were not enough, they add the intricacies of grammar, punctuation and sentence structure. In our columns we blithely ignore such rules. We split infinitives, dangle participles, end sentences with prepositions. If I knew the answer to every rule that my high school English teacher tried to instill into me. There are, however, certain forms of speech that all of us use without being conscious of what we're saying. Example: "It was awfully good," or "terribly refreshing." Now, that's grossly inconsistent. How can something be "awful" and yet "good"? And yet you catch me using that form of speech. I remember someone once challenging the use of the term "round circle," (Are there square ones?) Or: "What experience have you had in the past?" (Isn't all experience in the past?) As they say, English is a difficult language to learn properly.

When it comes to Japanese, it comes to Nihongo, I'm so lost that I couldn't split infinitives or dangle participles, etc. because I wouldn't recognize one if they had them. In Nihongo, as you know, there are forms of speech for different circumstances, depending on whom you're speaking to. There's a sentence that ended with a preposition. But, what the heck? If you're addressing to a male, it's one form of speech; a female is quite another. Mix the two, and you expose yourself as an ignoramus. Also, speech patterns differ if you're speaking to an equal, a subordinate or a superior—and, again, you shouldn't mix them up. And when it comes to royal court language...forfeit it. I think I heard just bits of it only once in my life, and I don't think I understood a word.

Yes, communicating is a complex matter indeed.

Kunitsu heads contractors group

Los Angeles—Kengo Kunitsugu, longtime consultant to Oriental Builders Assn., now renamed the Japanese American Contractors, Inc., heads the group as president, succeeding Roy Takei of Takei Construction Group, Pasadena.

In remarks at the 11th annual installation dinner at the Music Center's Pavilion Restaurant Feb. 13, Kunitsugu reminded the original goals remain: to fight discriminatory practices in the building industry, encourage Nisei-Veterans youth to the trades through job training programs, and serve the community.

Another challenge in particular, in which Kunitsugu mused no words, was to make the Nikes and the competitors of Asian contractors. "Some Japanese Americans fail to recog­nize the capabilities of Asian contractors, much less even offer an opportunity to bid on some projects," he declared. This he intends to make among his priorities.

Ted Hashimoto, president of Southland Scaffold & Equipment, Inc., exceeded the dinner.

Photo Please

On another of his visits, I lent him my faithful Datsun pickup to travel around. Peter is not a great driver. He took the handle off my garage door, and managed to knock a light fixture down on the roof as well. He also managed to rent to the NCWRN redress fund-raising dinners. These things happen when you travel fourth class.

I don't mean to paint a picture of this young man as a klutz, but he does have his moments. The converse of this picture is, however, the detailed reporting that he has provided the membership of the Redress issue. If people were able to see the process of coverage, they would see that Peter went without meals, worked 18 hours straight, taped much of the direct testimony. There is no doubt that he worked hard on this project.

Whether we get a picture of the elusive Peter Imamura into print soon or not, this is to serve to counter the rumor that Peter Imamura is a pen name. He is a real person, doing a hell of a job.

Sincerely,

RON WAKABAYASHI

One picture, coming up!—Ed.
Salinas Valley to celebrate 50th

SALINAS, CA—Ten Issei pioneers who can recall the birth of JACL in the valley and who were instrumental in starting Japanese agriculture here will be honored during the 50th anniversary banquet of the Salinas Valley JACL Feb. 20, 6 p.m., at the community center in the Rodeo Grounds.

Also being honored will be the 20 past chapter presidents and a number of civic and JACL dignitaries, including Dr. Yosh Nakashima, district governor, and George Kondo, regional director. The civic guest list includes...
ALIENS
Concern for Japanese aliens from Peru and other South American countries has intensified, with some people speaking primarily in Spanish or Portuguese and little English.

Japanese aliens...

CALENDAR

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Cler Muts Furiya's lectures in 2nd worst hotel fire in Tokyo

Tokyo—Among the 22 victims killed in the Feb. 8 fire at the New Japan Hotel was Mutsu "Muts" Furiya of San Francisco, a member of the Sequoia JACL Chapter.

The fire, which gutted the upper two floors of the building, also claimed the lives of a Briton, 12 Taiwanese and eight South Koreans, according to police.

The blaze had been the second worst hotel fire in Japan since World War II. In November 1960, a fire at the Kawasaki resort hotel in Toguchigai, prefecture, north of Tokyo, killed 10 people.

Furiya, 56, was a former Postal Service superintendent who had a hotel and restaurant business here for K-P International, Inc. He was shot dead after a 24-hour search for him ended in a Tokyo mortuary.

Furiya had been on the steering board of the Committee for Internment Credit, a San Francisco-based organization that helped reobtain in 1978 the retirement credit for American civilians who had been interned in relocation centers during World War II. The CIC had received much support from the JACL in Washington and Rep. Norman Y. Mineta (D-Cal.) was responsible for introducing the bill (HR 6142) which led to the interment credit public law (PL 99-60).

In addition to his involvement with CIC and JACL, Furiya was active with Asian Americans for Community Involvement and the Lions Club.

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1982 PACIFIC CITIZEN

February 19, 1982

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**NEW JAPAN HOTEL FIRE**

Tokyo—The blaze gutted two floors of the New Japan Hotel was Mutsu "Muts" Furiya of San Francisco, a member of the Sequoia JACL Chapter. The fire, which gutted the upper two floors of the building, also claimed the lives of a Briton, 12 Taiwanese and eight South Koreans, according to police.

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