Noguchi back in center of controversy

By PETER IMAMURA

Los Angeles County Chief Medical Examiner-Coronor Dr. Thomas T. Noguchi faced a Mar. 17 deadline to respond to a 60-day suspension issued him Mar. 11 by the County Board of Supervisors, and answer the charges of office mismanagement levied against him. The controversial county department head had said he would fire since December when the board called for an investigation of Noguchi’s office, which issued reports of widespread inefficiency within his department.

PC FOCUS

After a lengthy closed-door meeting, the five-member board unanimously voted to officially notify Noguchi of his suspension, which would go into effect Mar. 19. The board also asked the district attorney to consider a criminal investigation into the coroner’s conduct. However, the supervisors said they would review the coroner’s response in executive session on Mar. 19.

Upon hearing of his suspension, Noguchi and his attorney Godfrey Isaac responded at a press conference and issued a statement in which the board’s chair and seven forensic pathologists—four chosen by the board and three by Noguchi—to assess an “impartial evaluation” of the County coroner’s office. Such a panel would “ensure fairness… and avoid any taint of racial (overtones),” Noguchi said.

Some are calling this Noguchi II, added Isaac, who was referring to the coroner’s dismissal in 1969. One of the top department prompted a lengthy County Civil Service Commission review, in which Isaac charged that racism was behind the firing of Noguchi. The coroner was reinstated and since then Noguchi was considered a “political untouched” by some officials. L.A. Times Stories Stir Alarm

But the recent controversy in Noguchi’s department surfaced after a two-part series appeared Dec. 27-28 in the Los Angeles Times, as written by staff writer Laurie Becklund, who said the coroner’s office “has a record of making serious mistakes that have a devastating impact on investigations, murder trials and life insurance settlements”.

Becklund pointed out numerous complaints from law enforcement agencies, district attorneys and criminals, such as: inaccurate and misleading drug tests, mishandling and loss of key evidence in homicides, poorly kept records, overcrowding of dead bodies. All of these problems, noted her report, was due in part to poor management.

Becklund also noted that Noguchi’s “ego” was his single “flaw”, and his staff members “repeatedly complained that his office focuses only on high publicity cases, ignoring less-rewarding tasks that ensure careful handling of routine cases”.

Someserialize admitted to the Times that his ego is a problem, but that he channels his ego into a “driving force that makes (him) a department distinguished from others”.

Viewed as “Poorest Administrator”

The Times series further noted that Noguchi is considered one of the poorest county administrators” because of his self-centered behavior and his employees, wrote Becklund, have said he is so distant from office operations that they can only assume he doesn’t know—or doesn’t care—about the department’s numerous operational problems.

Continued on Next Page

San Diego CL closes escrow for sr. housing

SAN DIEGO, Ca.—An urgent appeal was issued this week by San Diego JACL for $300,000 to complete purchase price of $650,000 on 3.2 acres in Chula Vista to situate its 100-unit senior citizen housing project, Kiku Gardens. Escrow was closed Dec. 2 after 15 loyal members of the community and community groups loaned the chapter $100,000, which sum will have to be repaid, the JACL Newsletter reported.

Property is located on the 1200 block of 3rd Ave., north of Palm Dr., near an existing senior citizen center, shopping center and Post Office. With land acquisition, an architect can be interviewed, building permits obtained and other plans completed. The project has $4.5 million in reserves with the Dept. of Housing and Urban Development. Project will also involve a rental subsidy program for low-income tenants.

Chapter undertook the project three years ago.

William Y. Nishimura

Seattle JACLNER named to HUD post

Seattle JACLNER named to HUD post

SEATTLE—William Y. Nishimura, was recently ap pointed Regional Administrator for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development by department Secretary Samuel R. Pierce, Jr. in Washington, D.C.

The appointment makes Nishimura, a Seattle JACL Board member, one of the top-ranking Nikkei in the Reagan Administration. Nishimura will be responsible for all fed erally-funded housing and community development programs and grants in Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Alaska (Region X), with headquarters in Seattle.

Nishimura was executive director of the Seattle Housing Authority (SHA), for the past 11 years, and has been with the Authority for more than 32 years.
LOS ANGELES—As the controversy over County Coroner Dr. Thomas Noguchi heated up, a senator and leading newspapers, the Los Angeles Times and the Los Angeles Herald Examiner, said on their editorial pages that the Board of Supervisors should fire him.

Both newspapers named the major newspapers’ chiefs, chaired by Sen. Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.). On Feb. 24, the Times noted that Noguchi “refused to go quietly in the face of an official report laying out the various allegations that have led to his suspension.” The newspaper quoted the report as saying Noguchi “is affecting too many court cases and causing needless anxiety for too many families.”

No Reimbursement Urged

The Times also cited Noguchi’s dismissal by supervisors in 1980, which he fought and then won reinstatement.

On Jan. 16, the Times said that Supervisor Mike Antonovich disputed Noguchi’s claims about his ability to stay in the county’s medical examiner’s position. The newspaper noted that the 1980 firing was ultimately halted by a federal court when Noguchi sued the Board of Supervisors for the money that supports the office.

The Times, which had written both part-two series on the problems of the coroner’s office last December, pointed to Noguchi’s opposition in court against Noguchi: his use of county resources for his private practice, his “significant absenteeism”; and the coroner’s office’s lack of standard procedure for collecting and documenting evidence.

The Times added that Noguchi can’t manage these procedures; someone should be hired who can, the Times said in reference to his office’s inability to properly handle evidence.

The Times also said that the Board of Supervisor’s management audit and charges of “moonlighting” against Noguchi need to be carefully examined.

In essence, the News said that all the facts in the Noguchi case are being considered.

"Since the reputation of an office which has been in existence for more than 50 years, and a county for 15 years at stake, painstaking efforts must be made to manifest that the total issue is thoroughly checked."

The dismissal of Noguchi was made under the belief that all the allegations in the audit and reports are factually substantiated.

Racial Aspect Questioned

The issue of whether the Noguchi case is really a racial one is being debated, according to the Herald Examiner.

The Examiner also commented Mar. 9 on Noguchi’s refusal to resign and his subsequent re-evaluation. The Examiner said: "The Herald Examiner also commented Mar. 9 on Noguchi’s refusal to resign and his statement that ‘(he) certainly (did) not intend to change (his) style.’"

Both newspapers also reported that the Times noted that Noguchi clearly does not intend to change his style. His statements are irreconcilable: Either he changes his ‘style’ or he changes both his public conduct and his management of the coroner’s office, the Times asserted.

Noguchi’s style, the Times said, is "not any longer any middle ground. Dr. Noguchi, do not accept that simple logic leads us to conclude that the good doctor should, at long last, go back to the drawing board."

Indeed, he is no longer merely a local embarrassment. Noguchi’s statements are increasingly national in scope. He is being labeled both a political oddity and a public figure in his own right. He is not likely to go quietly, the Examiner contended.

The Examiner noted that Noguchi’s "iron hand is now firmly on the necks of the media."

The Examiner added that Noguchi was "the hero" of the media’s "cover story" on the Noguchi case, "longer any middle ground."

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JACC fetes three pioneers and celebrates its 2nd anniversary

LOS ANGELES—The Japanese American Cultural and Community Center celebrated its second anniversary March 5 with a testimonial dinner for three individuals whose efforts helped build the JACC.

With the theme, "Beginning Century II," to mark its goals for the future, the center honored George J. Doizaki, JACC president; Katsumasa Mukaeda, the center's board chairman; and Dr. Martin Murphy, a board member and former Times Mirror board chairman.

The gala, held at the Biltmore Hotel and attended by 500 persons, included distinguished guests such as Mayor Tom Bradley and Japanese consul-general Tsuneo Tanaka.

Doizaki, president of the Los Angeles Harbor Commission, introduced Doizaki who, since taking the presidential post in 1979, has made a tireless effort to help the center raise $10 million. Despite a heart condition, Doizaki continued his dedicated service by seeking contributions outside of the Nikkei community, soliciting funds from businesses, the government and Japanese companies.

Mukaeda, introduced by former U.S. Ambassador to Japan James D. Hodgson, has dedicated over 50 years to the Japan America Society and organizations which serve the Nikkei community, as well as contributions which foster better U.S.-Japan relations. The 91-year-old Mukaeda, a recipient of the Second Class Order of the Sacred Treasure of Japan, was heralded as a "living local treasure" by Hodgson.

Murphy, who had been chancellor at UCLA from 1960-1968, was introduced by Takashi Sakai, president of the Japan Business Assn.

Murphy was instrumental in helping the JACC gain support from the general community. He said in his speech during the dinner that America is "a mosaic of different cultures" and he hoped that the JACC would "benefit younger Japanese Americans and non-Japanese as well."

Each honoree was presented with a framed caligraphy scroll of "Three Friends," calling them Kan-Shu, Biuta, and Sun-Wu. Tribute to the three men included performances by dancers from the Kansai and Pacific Kan- sume; the Kimura Taiko drum group and musicians Dan and June Kuramoto. Actor George Ta- mara presented the tributes and Togo Tanaka, member of the Federal Reserve Board and pre- fered English editor at the Rafu Shimpo, served as emcee.

Animal Zodiac theme of sumi-e display
SAN RAFAEL, Ca—Abstract calligraphy by Joyce Black, who studied in the Shodo style in Japan, is exhibiting the twelve Animal Zodiac theme from May 14 at First Federal Savings, 600 College Ave, Oakland.

Bookstore to host
Women in Concert
LOS ANGELES—Women in Concert honoring International Women's Day will be held March 19-20, 7:30 p.m., at Amerasia Bookstore as a benefit for the store. Appearing will be Miyoko Iwatsuki and Dolce de Pront, with Jane Kuramoto, Liza Joe, Marsha Furutani, and Liza Abe-Furutani.

NEW OTANI HOTEL—Directors and executives of the New Otani Hotels attending a recent international sales meeting in Tokyo are (from left): standing—Ken Yoshimoto, Masaaki Kono, Takenori Sakai, David Atwood (London), Nobuo Yokoyama, Kazuhiko Otani, J. Ken Borton (Los Angeles), Hiroshi Kohda; kneeling—Saburo Ohira, director, New Otani interna- tional, Tokyo; Takashi Mushitsuka; Yukimichi Sato (Kamakura Beach); and Tetsu Urayama (Los Angeles). The Singapore hotel is under construction and a new hotel will open soon in Sapporo. (New Otani Hotel is a corporate JACL Member).

AVAC seeks volunteers for placement
LOS ANGELES—The Asian American Voluntary Action Center is preparing for a major recruitment this spring to place volunteers in various Asian Pacific organizations. Tony Sung, Executive director of AVAC, noted that a recent survey taken by the center reported Asian Pacific human service agencies suffered losses of $33.2 million in funding and 130 staff positions, due to government cutbacks.

AVAC would like to form volunteer resource pool from senior citizens, students, church groups and professional organizations. Interested persons should call Michael Matsuda, Volunteer Coordinator, (213) 825-1564.

JAM holds HS literary contest
SAN FRANCISCO—Sanpontan Art and Media Writers' Workshop is sponsoring its second annual literary contest for high school students to encourage young Asian/Pacific Islander writers. Prizes range from $25 to $75, for more info call Doug Yamamoto (415) 763-3032.

Widow support group in S.F. formed
SAN FRANCISCO—Nisei and Retirement group formed a support group for Nisei widows Mar. 13 at the home of Estelle Chong here. Professional guidance is being provided by Shanti Propert, a volunteer organization. For information, call NAF coordinator Daisy Satoda (821-0614).

Friday, March 19, 1982 / PACIFIC CITIZEN—3

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Sanambo of Chicago, presented the 100 Club Life Members Restricted Fund proposal, which was approved (details to be in a separate story). But the motion to have the 100 Club chair appointed as a non-voting board member failed by a single vote.

via Ron Bejiri's videotape, Yoko Orita revealed William Morell, publishers of Bill Honokawa's "JACL in Quest of Justice" (the JACL Story, assured his committee the first run of 5,000 copies have been sold, and redress would commence during the National Convention. Author will be present to sign the book at the Mas Sanow Public Library in Gardena, where a special event will be planned to introduce the book.

As part of the redress efforts, reporting for Tom Shimasaki, presented the redress campaign substance fund raising for general operation. National Commission is a manner similar to activities where suggestions individuals help raise funds for general operation of National Commission in a manner similar to activities where suggestions individuals help raise funds for redress activities on an individual's behalf.

The economic losses should be considered not only real property but also anticipated earnings, preferential treatment, and total money damages incurred: not only the costs for the Federal and state governments involved but also the economic and other losses, such as health, results of evacuation, and military and non-military worries, goodwill, etc. The economic losses should be

It is understandable that the National JACL Board at its recent February meeting in San Francisco agreed to establish a separate and independent organization to concentrate its lobbying efforts to redress efforts. The new organization will be patterned after the JACL Anti-Discrimination Committee that operated so effectively in the immediate post-World War II era in its efforts to redress and redress legislation and court judgments benefiting those of Japanese ancestry.

Dear Harry,

May I take this opportunity through the Pacific Citizen to express my thanks and appreciation to the officers and members of the JACL who have been so thoughtful as to send "get well" cards and prayers for my recovery from my recent heart attack and bypass operations.

I and my family have had many expressions of goodwill and affection for our personal support given by others who have been from those old timers with whom we shared JACL's experiences over the past four decades and more several were sent by Sansei and even Yonsei who wanted to cheer us up in these difficult and trying times.

Unfortunately, we cannot write individual acknowledgement letters to each and every one of you through your medium to thank those who remembered us in these difficult and trying times.

On the record, may I note that on December 24th I suffered my third heart attack and was rushed to the hospital. I am now well on the road to recovery, with my cardiologist allowing me to spend a few days at the office or at home. When I am completely recovered, I have been told that I should be happier and healthier than I have been since my first heart attack in 1958.

In any event, Etsu and I are looking forward to the forthcoming National JACL Convention this mid-August in Gardena where I hope to personally thank many of those who sent me "get well" cards, often with personal comments relating to the common cause in which we have all struggled these many years.

Comment on Two Issues

As might be expected these circumstances, I have had much more time recently in which to reflect on many matters, many of which concern JACL because so much of my life has been spent in JACL. Inasmuch as I have spent quite some time since I wrote the preceding column, may I comment on two of the most important issues I now visualize as JACL's greatest and gravest challenges and responsibilities. One relates to the redress effort and the other deals with our bilateral relations with Japan.

As far as redress is concerned, though the Commission has completed its public hearings phase, in actual fact the real "battle" looms immediately ahead. Now that Congress has approved an extension until the end of this year for the work of the Commission, JACL must make certain that the needed additional funds for the effective operation of the Commission is provided by a budget conscious legislature. Then, JACL must continue to persuade the Reagan Administration to not only fulfill the Commission's objectives as to what the Commission should do but also to support the Commission's findings and recommendations to the Congress if they are within JACL's guidelines. Also, this year JACL must lobby the staff and the Commissioners themselves to come up with the kind of definitive report and remedial recommendations before year's end that the JACL has so heartedly endorsed.

Beyond all this, of course, is the legislation that the Commission ultimately submits to the Congress next year. If it is acceptable, JACL must lobby hard for its passage. If not, JACL will have to oppose it, propose its own alternatives, and lobby for the enactment of its alternative.

The redress effort is effective, and for the very future and credibility of JACL to make this in our campaign to do justice to the victims of Executive Order No. 9066.

Since these comments on the redress issues have taken up too much space, may I reserve my comments on the JACL filed lawsuit for redress against the United States and the States for another week soon?

Thank you again for affording me this means to extend my appreciation to all your readers and other JACLers who were kind enough to look me up in my convalescence. I can assure one and all that I am feeling good and that in the not too distant future I shall be back to work again full time, working mainly on both redress and bilateral relations with Japan.

Mike M. Masaoka

Salt Lake City

On February 23 the accident occurred as she was driving to work. The roads were icy, and her other driver was in a hurry. Michael, her husband, had traveled the same road five minutes earlier. Although they both worked for the forest service, they drove separately. Susan liked to leave a little later. Women seem to have something that detains them, a small chore or an extra straightening of the house. The house was a culmination of their young dreams. They had built it themselves with love and labor.

They had not discussed death in the sense that it would happen to them. As Michael said, "We had such a good thing going." From the earnest tone of his voice, I knew he thought it should have lasted longer, if not forever. It seems so unfair if you are young and even if you are not and only remember having been young. Susan had just observed her 30th birthday. Perhaps a terminal illness would have been more acceptable. There would have been time to be alive, to rage, to mourn, to prepare. "What should I do?" asked Susan. "Should I do this senseless accident have to happen?" I had no answer.

Michael said the funeral arrangements were changed. On the night of the accident, the plans had been for a service in Idaho, followed by cremation. "The casket will be closed. I don't want anyone to look at her," said Susan. "The ashes were to be scattered on a mountain in California, one that Michael and Susan had climbed. Now, there would be no cremation. He could not bear to have it done. "That's fine, Michael," I said, containing my preference for the purifying fire and ash. "Anything you choose will be fine and you alone must choose for Susan." "I'm taking her home to California after the service," he said. "I couldn't bury her in the snow of Idaho. Everything is so cold and desolate now. I can't imagine how bleak it is." I assured him I could. Utah is also winter country. It rained all morning in California the day of the burial. Later, about the time of the service, the storm lifted and the sun came out. A minister recited the kind of poetry Susan liked, about trees and mountains and meadows. A friend sang a song and played the guitar. The body was laid to rest in the presence of her friends and their baby. Her brother and sister were there. Her natural parents could not be there. It was too late for them. Susan was her middle child. There is no physical resemblance, for my sister is Asian and the children are Caucasian. Instant motherhood was not easy, but my sister is justifiably proud of the three fine adults they grew to be.

"It is so unfair," she wept. "Susan was too young, too happy, too beautiful to die." It is the ageless, universal lament of parents who feel cheated in having to bury their young. It is a feeling that springs from the heart, not the womb. "She was my daughter," my sister said. "I know," I answered. "You had three lovely children and now you have two. They need you.

"Yes," my sister said, "no matter how old my children grow, they need their mother.

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Mike Masaoka

Cherry Chase, Md.
FROM THE FRYPING PAN: by Bill Hosokawa

First, Masugi contends, the demand for further moneymaking “will inevitably (and not unjustly) be taken for crass opportunism, a cynical cash-in on past injustices.” This, he reasons, is unlikely to advance public understanding “about this agonizing episode in American history.”

“Furthermore,” he goes on, “in defending the rights of Americans from arbitrary treatment on the basis of race, the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians need not recommend dangerous limitations on the power of the national government to act in a time of crisis. After all, some action—undoubtedly harsh and arbitrary—was necessary in the time to separate the potentially disloyal persons of Japanese ancestry from the loyal.

His next statement is even more provocative: “One must ask why the issue of the internment is being raised now, and this can be answered in the case that ‘60s activists who have become lawyers and community organizers supply much of the impetus. For them the commission hearings are a means of achieving one of the goals of the ‘60s protest movements: To show that America is a racist society.”

And finally, this: “Unfortunately, the Internment Commission appears likely to make recommendations such as those of the New York Times, which editorialized for ‘a gesture of atonement’—federal funds for scholarships, cultural and community programs, and prizes for Japanese Americans. Such a racially conscious response to the internment blunder reminds one of the disaster of affirmative action, which stigmatizes those it extends to aid and thus contradicts its claim to advance the principles of equality and liberty. Such legislation would be a moral catastrophe—a debasement of the internees’ experience into a pathetic yelp of slavish self-pity and a lost opportunity for understanding the embittered ideals on which the nation is founded. Instead, we must recognize the wrong that was done, we must refrain from racially conscious restitutions, and we must reeducate ourselves to the principle upon which our nation was founded.”

To put it gently, this position is somewhat at odds with those who believe that it is the “American way” to make restitution for a wrong with cash money. And it underscores once again the diversity of views among Japanese Americans themselves, the Solomon-like wisdom that the Commission must summon up in its search for an equitable recommendation, and the high improbability of it producing a finding that will please any great number.

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Man-Nen-Hitsu

THAT’S THE WORD for “fountain pen” in nihongo. Literally translated, the three-character word, means “ten-thousand-year pen.” When it comes to writing instruments, I’ve long had a compulsive addiction; a promiscuous pen purchaser, you please. Build it a Parker, Sheaffer, Mont Blanc, Pilot, Platinum—name you please. I have even one Japanese writing instrument call “Whymper,” a name that I cannot find in the English language. And in time, I would have advised against had they asked me.

WHENEVER I HAPPEN to be near a stationery store, including those in Jay-Towns as well as in various cities in Japan itself, I check over the displays of writing instruments. And I can honestly say that the Japanese, with all their vaunted craftsmanship and technology, have yet to come up with a decent fountain pen. They persist in producing pens that scratch, skip, and blobber ink.

IN FAIRNESS, THOUGH, it must be said that the Parker and Sheaffers are not without their faults: the accumulation of such pens idly lying in my desk drawers bears mute testimony to this. One did come to me as a gift, and it was an absolute dream which I carried all through college, and sometime thereafter managed to lose. It was a Sheaffer with black and brown striations the length of its leg, and sometime thereafter I managed to lose.

To provide a taste of Southern California living—Nikkei style, a land tour of Nikkeidom is being arranged. People outside Los Angeles will get a chance to experience the Ken Nakakoa Memorial Center and Meiji Market. Nakakoa was the first Japanese American to be elected by voters as a mayor. Meiji Market is food heaven for any self-respecting ochazuke fan.

Aside from the area attractions, the National Convention will be the site of events of tremendous importance to the Nikkei community and JACL. There is some chance that the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians will have their report. Even if not, there needs to be much discussion on the future of the Redress efforts.

I am anxiously awaiting our National JACL spring meeting taking place during August 10-13 at the Airport Hyatt in Los Angeles under the capable guidance of our Gardena Valley chapter.

Lou Tomita et al. have been working diligently on the San Francisco Bay area will grudgingly admit that it has had a penchant. Shortly after my return to Philadelphia, there arrived in the mail a two-headed writing instrument: a fountain pen on one end and a reductive ball-point pen on the other end. I still have it and I’m reminded of George every time I see it. And I’ve never seen another one like it in my travels and visits to stationery shops.

MUSUBI: by Ron Wakabayashi

Catching the Convention Fever

San Francisco

Nisei Veterans are having its 27th Biennial Convention, pulling out all stops. The folks of the war in the Pacific, some time ago dis- taken for crass opportunism, a cyrical cash-money response to the internment blunder reminds one of the mid testimony to this.

I was a collector of pens and confessed he, a promise was made to the people who had been able to invade and to occupy that country.

Since I survived 35 years in Los Angeles, I shall assure people that the myths about the smog are greatly exaggerated. Los Angeles is a nice place to live. My cohorts in the San Francisco Bay area will grudgingly admit that it is a nice place to visit. So plan your visit.

Gardena members have arranged for a reception at the Mas Satow Library in Gardena through support of County Supervisor Kenneth Hahn and his deputy Mas Fukai. Pat Okura, who chairs the Mas Satow Memorial Committee, is working with the Gardnera people to arrange the program, which will include distribution of the new publication, “JACL in Quest of Justice” by Bill Hosokawa.

To provide a taste of Southern California living-Nikkei style, a land tour of Nikkeidom is being arranged. People outside Los Angeles will get a chance to experience the Ken Nakakoa Memorial Center and Meiji Market. Nakakoa was the first Japanese American to be elected by voters as a mayor. Meiji Market is food heaven for any self-respecting ochazuke fan.

The folks at the Nikkei community and JACL convention will get a chance to experience the Ken Nakakoa Memorial Center and Meiji Market. Nakakoa was the first Japanese American to be elected by voters as a mayor. Meiji Market is food heaven for any self-respecting ochazuke fan.

53rd Biennial Convention

MARCH 22, 1987

Mar. 7 - Nikkei week parade will take place the Sunday before our convention begins. And Wednesday before the parade, the19, 1982

Mar. 18-JACL (Mike Masaoka) urges citizenship for bill 1943

Mar. 19-March major group of 50 Nisei straumbers returns from Ja

Mar. 19—JACL officials testify for fair employment pr

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Hirasuna of Fresno named to PC Board

SAN FRANCISCO—Fred Hirasuna, longtime Fresno JACLer, was appointed by JACL National President Jim Tsujimura, to the Pacific Citizen Board, representing the Central California District, effective January 1982. Hirasuna succeeds Dr. Izumi Taniguchi. Other PC Board members are: Dr. Clifford Uyeda, PC Bd chair (1981); Ellien Nakamura, EDC (1981); Shirley Nakatokasa, MDC (1981); Bill Nosekawa, MPDC; Robert Budo, EDC; Cherry Kinoshita, PWDC; Mts Nakai, NWCNPDC; Jim Isseki, PWDC.

Deaths

Ryan Kado, 81, longtime Venice-Venice JACL 1666 club member and a naturalized citizen who was born in Shimoa, died Mar. 8 after an illness. A landscape architect who constructed over 100 shrines reminiscent of the famed Lourdes groto in France during his lifetime, he was in charge of landscaping the Catholic cemeteries in the Los Angeles Archdiocese until his retirement. Surviving are a Louis, d'Iida Watanabe and 3 gc. While at Marathon, he constructed the cenotaph overlooking the cemetery, stone houses at the gate and a Japanese garden. He installed the Calif. Historical Landmark bronze plaque there in 1973.

Masao Ohmoto, M.D., 65, an internist and charter member of St. Louis JACL, died of heart attack Mar. 3. A graduate of St. Louis University medical school in 1943, he practiced medicine in the area hospitals and worked many years with the tuberculosis program of St. Louis County Health Department. His wife Monoye predeceased him in 1969. Surviving are s. Glenn, Michael and d. Edward, all of Rock Hill, Mo.

New youth director to visit PSWDC

LOS ANGELES—David Nakayama, recently appointed JACL youth director at Headquarters, is making his first official visit here this weekend and will be introduced to PSWDC youth and friends at their first session Mar. 20, 1 p.m., at the JACL regional office.

The youth meeting, chaired by DYC chair Patty Honda, will also discuss spring workshops and special youth events at the National JACL Convention in August at Gardena.

Before returning to San Francisco Tuesday, Nakayama will visit with the regional office and Pacific Citizen staff.

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Membership fee added as door prize

DAYTON, Ohio—Among the door prizes featured at the Dayton JACL general membership meeting Feb. 28, at St. George’s Episcopal Church was a paid-up 1982 membership, it was announced by program chair Kurt Winterhalter.

Mas Yamasaki, chapter president, presented at the meeting to discuss the 1982 dues structure, review the JAYS program, and prepare for the International Festival food booth scheduled June 44. Yamasaki, chapter president in 1949, is starting his seventh term at the helm.

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March 15, 1982

Membership fee (after name of Chapter) reflects the 1982 rate for Single and Couple, $1, Student, $75, Monarch, $150. Elected and Honorary members have contributed $50 or more. Students are elected to monarchical status when they attend a convention or special meeting. All membership dues are payable at the rate of $6 per year. Dues are remitted to the JACL chapter of one's choice. This list will be updated in the next chapter reports and may also be found in the membership rolls of other chapters.

PACIFIC SOUTHWEST

Columbia Basin ($33)—Edward M Yamamoto, 4302
Fairchild Loop, Moses Lake, WA 98837.

Gresham-Troutdale ($50.54)—Mr. Tofieko, PO Box 4135, Gresham, OR 97030.

Lake Washington ($36.25)—Tetsu Yada, 1421 NE 60TH St, Bellevue, WA 98004.

Mid Columbia ($47.18)—Mr. Toshio, 1943W 20TH Ave, SeaTac, WA 98188.

Puyallup Valley ($36.35)—John Kondo, 1740 Chase
Avenue, Sumner, WA 98390.

Seattle ($36.48)—Mr. Toshi, 124 36TH Ave, Seattle, WA 98125.

Spokane ($35.47.5)-Calvin Kam, 1912 Sharp, Spokane, WA 99207.

White River ($35.47.5)—Mr. Toshi, 503 4TH Ave, Spokane, WA 99202.

NO. CALIF. W.VN—PACIFIC

Alameda ($41)—Mrs. Anna Towa, 126c Montmarte
Ave, Alameda, CA 94501.

Berkeley ($42)—Mr. and Mrs. Tomi Nakamura, 11020 Stanyan St, San Francisco, CA 94127.

Contra Costa ($39.31, $32, $11)—Natsu Teri, 1657 7TH St, Richmond, CA 94801.

Corte Cress ($40.98)—Kathly Guarino, 1206 Claremont, Berkeley, CA 94709.

Dialy Valley ($39.48, $32, $16)—Mr. Akiko, 2511 9TH St, Richmond, CA 94801.

San Mateo ($39.48, $32, $16)—Mr. Akiko, 2511 9TH St, Richmond, CA 94801.

Santa Barbara ($39.48, $32, $16)—Mr. Akiko, 2511 9TH St, Richmond, CA 94801.

San Bernardino ($39.48, $32, $16)—Mr. Akiko, 2511 9TH St, Richmond, CA 94801.

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San Luis Obispo ($39.48, $32, $16)—Mr. Akiko, 2511 9TH St, Richmond, CA 94801.

Sacramento ($39.48, $32, $16)—Mr. Akiko, 2511 9TH St, Richmond, CA 94801.

Sonoma ($39.48, $32, $16)—Mr. Akiko, 2511 9TH St, Richmond, CA 94801.

Tulare ($39.48, $32, $16)—Mr. Akiko, 2511 9TH St, Richmond, CA 94801.

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Floyd Mori ends 10 years of public service—future plans told SACRAMENTO, Calif.—Former Assemblyman S. Floyd Mori has resigned his post as director of California's Office of International Trade, it was announced Mar. 3. He has served in the position within the State Dept. of Economic and Development since appointed by Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. in December 1980. "After ten years of public service, it becomes necessary for me to devote more time to my family and personal career," Mori stated.

As director of the OIT, Mori helped facilitate communication between Japan and California on a multi-faceted issue. He also initiated the first official California legislative investment mission to Japan, and worked to avert a statewide boycott on Japanese products.

Future Plans—Consultant to International Business Mori will move into the private sector as an advisor and consultant to international business. He plans to go into international marketing and investment counseling along with government relations services for both domestic and foreign-based businesses.

Mori was an economics professor at Chabot College for ten years and has also chaired legislative committees in the area of agriculture, labor relations and auditing of state government and state government administration.

Gardenia Bukkyo-kai rebuilding again GARDENA, Calif.—The Gardenia Buddhist Church Matrons and the South Bay Keiro Nursing Home have undertaken fund-raising activities (such as a box lunch sale) to help rebuild the church, which was hit by an arsonist’s Feb. 12 fire.

In 1976, the Gardenia Buddhist Church Rebuilding Fund, 1517 W. 166 St., Gardena, CA 90247.

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LA. Olympic taps

LAS VEGAS, Nev.—Sanyo, an international group of firms, including Sanyo Electric and Nikkei Inc., of Japan, joins the growing list of official sponsors for the 1984 Olympics at Los Angeles. Sanyo is donating video equipment and related services and will have its products cited as official for the 23rd Games.

The settlement was reached in the midst of a suit filed by Mink, Gladys Lang of Stony Brook, N.Y., and Phyllis Weatherill of Washington, D.C., who were given the synthetic hormone diethylstilbestrol, or DES. They were given the drug without their knowledge while pregnant and attending the university.

DES is a synthetic once thought effective in preventing miscarriages. It was later determined, however, that the chemical did nothing to prevent miscarriages but caused reproductive problems in the offspring of women given the drug during pregnancy.

“When Patsy Mink was a student at the Univ. of Chicago, she became pregnant and went to the U of C clinics for treatment,” said her attorney Bill Schultz. “She was given what at the time she was told were vitamins.”

Class Action Denied

“She found out in 1975 she was part of a medical experiment on DES that involved 2,000 women. Half were given DES and the other half were given a placebo,” he added. “This lawsuit was by one of the 1,000 DES mothers who were part of the experiment.”

U.S. district Judge John Grady refused to allow the case to be tried as a class action suit, but the Univ. of Chicago agreed to provide free medical care for the offspring of the DES mothers if they develop a rare type of cancer. According to Schultz, the three women acquired no physical injuries as a result of the experiment, but their daughters suffered from vaginal abnormalities caused by DES. The women filed the suit because of the emotional stress they underwent due to concern over their daughters.

Nikkei saves victim of fiery car crash

GARDENA, Ca.—A Redondo Beach grocery clerk helped save a burning man who leaped from a fiery auto accident Feb. 21. Paul Saito witnessed a car attempting to run a red light on 166th St., which then struck another car in the intersection and flipped on its side, bursting into flames.

Two men leaped from the overturned car, their clothes in flames. An unidentified woman who remained in the burning car was killed. Saito and other witnesses rushed to the aid of one of the men and helped smother his burning clothes. Both victims were taken to nearby hospitals and the driver of the burned car, Tony Milton, 22, was held for vehicular manslaughter, police said.

March 27, 9AM-10PM
March 28, 9AM-7PM

For two days every Spring, The Happiest Place on Earth becomes the Land of the Rising Sun. Festival Japan is back, March 27 & 28, with extended Saturday hours till 10 PM for a dazzling nighttime display of authentic Japanese fireworks. Both days, you’ll see a colorful Festival Parade featuring all Festival performers. And, you’ll be surrounded by the beauty and time-honored tradition of Japan. Folk and classical dancing. Koto music. The exquisite crafts of origami and wood carving. The awe-inspiring art of ice sculpting.

So mark your calendar for March 27 & 28. Then spend two magical days in Japan, at Disneyland.

Sunday, March 28
Festival Japan Parade—3PM
Whistling in the Dark

In all the years I have spent in Japan, a total of 26, I have yet to hear a Japanese whistling in public. While whistling is a light-hearted and casual expression of a typical American's personality, it is almost an unknown phenomenon in Japan.

None seems to know why the Japanese do not whistle. For want of an explanation, I will offer my own, a somewhat guarded guess that will need to be elaborated on later.

The reason undoubtedly can be attributed to the traditional Japanese code of etiquette. Many of the earlier regional concepts on proper conduct were formalized nationally during the Tokugawa period (1600-1867), when the four class system was adopted. Exact rules of decorum for the samurai class were complemented by standards of behaviors for the farmers, craftsmen and business men.

And regardless of the status, the constituents of that class were expected to conform to the customs adapted for that class. These guidelines for personal behavior stressed conformity as the theme, to the point that individual regional concepts on proper conduct were formalized or suffer social alienation.

In our 75th anniversary celebration, Honolulu-As part of its National Heritage Bank, the Rainbow Awards committee, has been acknowledged with the parents saying such words as "Furuyo no koto wo suru na" (Don't behave like Ne'er-do-well!). A "Furuyo" is a renegade or a nonconformist. Living in Japan can be frustrating for an American long used to the free expression of his feelings. Fortunately, because of my buck teeth, I am a poor whistler.

When I have my pleasant mood and feel like whistling, I am more inclined to hum—and even this—in private. Too open an expression of pleasure, not shared by others, may lead the "sekken" to think that you are a loony.

Outwardly, the current Japanese industrial and commercial infrastructure is as Western as that of any advanced nation. What is different are the thinking, the mores and the rules of human behavior.

Much of the traditional thoughts are still setting the pattern for everyday life. As I like to compare the summer every morning, a 50-minute trip on a fully-packaged train, surrounded by fellow commuters, I note a blank of silent expressions. Seldom do the passengers look around or show interest in others around them. Even the mausoleums taking advantage of immobilized crowds, are said to show no expression as they paw their way around.

The rule of thumb is to conform with others. Thus, there are widely used expressions such as "sekken nami" (the same as others), "sekken shirazu" (don't know the rules or society) and "sekken nami ni meiwaku" (cause trouble for others). The older Nisei will recall such terms as "hakari" (hurt one's honor or name), which in effect shows a strong concern for the opinion of society.

Fundamental to Japanese behavior is to be never conspicuous. This is bad taste. Bad behavior by a child will be admonished, with the parents saying such words as "Furuyo no koto wo suru na" (Don't behave like Ne'er-do-well!). A "Furuyo" is a renegade or a nonconformist. Living in Japan can be frustrating for an American long used to the free expression of his feelings. Fortunately, because of my buck teeth, I am a poor whistler. When I have my pleasant mood and feel like whistling, I am more inclined to hum—and even this—in private. Too open an expression of pleasure, not shared by others, may lead the "sekken" to think that you are a loony.

Nikkei Widowed Group

LOS ANGELES—Clarence Mura is the new president of the Nikkei Widowed Group, now in its third year and meeting every Sunday third and fourth Sunday of the month at 3 p.m. in the JACL 4th floor. Other officers are:

Novo Kato, V.P.; Fumi Yahiro, sec.; Sam Endo, treas.; Daisy Numa, Sunshine; Harold & Chuck Uyemura, Kay Kobayashi, hospital; and Mary Naka, pub.

Officers were installed Mar. 13 at Taix, Bill Watase, resource person, gave the invocation. Henry Shigekawa was emcee.

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By NAOMI KASHIBAWARA

Paris had its Orient Express, Los Angeles has its Latino Special. Daily at 6:30 p.m. the Latino Special leaves the Greyhound station at Sixth and Los Angeles streets and rolls for 17 hours to El Paso, Texas.

Kiyoshi "Kiko" Kasai (San Fernando JACL) and I (San Di­go JACL) in early 1982, Nevermind the Latino Special (which with reverse marina left at 5:50 p.m.) on the first part of our self-conducted tour of Mexico’s Copper Canyon, called the Grand Tour of the Copper Canyon. It was a 12-hour bus ride to shuttle bus rides from El Paso to the Juarez bus station across the border saving us a hefty cab fare.

Mexican buses go from Ciudad Juarez to Chihuahua. The next morning looking forward to our trip through publicized Copper Canyon we sat in an observation car on the Chihuahua at Pacifico railroad.

At Los Mochis, the western end of our ride, we turned south on a Mexican bus to Mazatlan, the northern beginning of the Mexican Riviera. Kiko worked for RCA on Kwajalein in the South Pacific for five and a half years and he does not have my liking for tropical beaches. While I sunned and body surfed on the beach which I had nearly to myself in front of our hotel (Hotel Cabanas al Mar, $170 a night double, recommended) Kiko went sightseeing and shopping.

From Mazatlan we came home by sitting in a bus for about 28 hours north to Tijuana. Mexican buses have first and second class. The price difference is small and American tourists should go first class. They should also stay dry and empty to avoid eating unhygienic foods at rest stops. Why are Latin-Americans indifferent to dirty public restrooms?

OBSERVATIONS:

1. One good thing about Mexico’s population boom is the increase in number of young, attractive females. There are hard-working, honest, and likable.

2. A low ceiling fan in a Mexican hotel room can cut off your sleep.

3. My total transportation expenses including buses, train, city buses, taxis, and hotel limousine was $128. Fast, clean, inexpensive Mexican buses give pre-WL2 A. None like me—who used to consider a Sunday afternoon at Brighton Beach on old Terminal Island a treat—the chance to enjoy the tropical sun, white sand, and warm water of the Mexican Riviera.

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JACL is the only one of its kind. AID of Japan’s raids has been uncovered and many of those who used these Kamons.

In Japan, the pride of this brilliant new group, which began in the Japanese and later became the Japanese American, a JACL, Kiko Yoshida. Kiko Yoshida is no longer doing that for his family to boast. In 1983 he received a prize which will play a necessary role in further investigations and which depicts the old presided over by JACL, Japan. The pride of these regions and many of those who used these Kamons.

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PC PEOPLE

- Agriculture
  Dr. Frank T. Ogasawara, professor in avian sciences at UC Davis, was named general chair of the annual meeting of the U.S. Poultry Science Assn., to be held at Davis. Ogasawara, who is also a demographer, is expected in the audience.

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NOGUCHI

Continued from Page 2

Noguchi's Residence Is Requested

Noguchi was asked to resign from his office Mar. 5 by Chief Administrative Officer Hufford, who had completed his investiga-
tion of the department. The 56-year-old elder fluently re-
signed, and called a press conference the following Monday (Mar. 8) saying that he was also opposed to Hufford's sugges-
tion that the coroner's office should merge with the sheriff's department.

"I feel that I have a responsibility to respond to recent criti-
cisms of my office. There are areas in which improvement is needed," Noguchi said. "Unfortunately, sufficient finances have not been provided to us to hire the personnel or purchase the equipment that we should have. However, our problems have been exaggerated and many tremendous achievements have been virtually ignored."

Noguchi planned to devote his "entire energy" to his duties as chief medical examiner and that he would seek to improve the administration of the office.

The same day the Hufford's office released the results of its investigation, which were highly critical.

—Noguchi allegedly used county resources for his personal financial gain, and he was responsible for numerous financial improprieties.
—There were "serious problems" in the coroner's evidence control with "no standard procedures for collecting, labeling and documenting evidence."
—The coroner has violated state health and safety codes by the disposal of body parts in a sewer, and he was responsible for numerous technical violations.
—There are no formal training programs for staff. Department em-
ployees are overworked, officials said.

The supervisors then went into executive session Mar. 9 in
wake of the Hufford investigation. At the same time, Isaac said any attempts to dismiss Noguchi would result in an appeal to the Civil Service Commission again, adding that he felt the charges were the result of "deliberate sabotage."

After two days, the supervisors made their decision—susension without pay for 30 days effective Mar. 19. Noguchi was given five days to respond to the charges.

Funds encourage minority broadcasters

WASHINGTON—An unusual non-profit capital fund awarded its
first loans Feb. 10 to minority firms in Memphis, Tenn. and
Los Angeles—New Capital Station
Percy ganji, PC'S Calendar of Events

—Sansei tennis star to define title

FORT WORTH, Tex.—Ann Kiyomura and Sue Barker, one of the
tennis doubles teams in the world last year, will defend their
title in the 1982 Bridgestone Doubles Championship, April 15-18, at the Will Rogers Memorial Center here.

Barker, of Wimbleton, England, and Kiyomura, of Mountain View, Ca., are the tournament's 1981 champions. They are also one of the premiere teams on the JASC Championship circuit, having won the doubles title in Cincinnati and reaching the semi-finals in
San Francisco. They will compete for a total prize of $50,000 in the Bridgestone tournament.

Asian law students assn. plans dinner

SAN FRANCISCO—The Asian/Pacific Law Students Association of Hastings College of the Nation will hold a fundraising dinner and dance at the San Francisco Hotel Crystal Ballroom on Mar. 20, 6 p.m. For ticket information call (415) 577-8664.

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3—Horticultural Trip
June 19-17; Dr. Robert Funke
4—Summer Tour
June 19-17; Amy Nakashima
5—Hokkaido Tour
Sept. 25-10; Steve Yagi
6—Autumn in S. Honsu/Kyushu Oct. 2-23; Veronica Okhara
7—Ocean Tour (Bangkok) Oct. 2-8; Jiro Mochizuki
8—Ura-Nihon Tour ... Oct. 9-30; Bill Sakurai/Yuki Sato
5 Highlight/Shopping Tour (Izus/Hongkong) Nov. 6-27
9—Special Holiday Tour (Laos) Nov. 30-Dec. 7
10—Special Holiday Tour (Japan) Dec. 27-Jan. 9

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For more information, reservations, call or write
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(213) 622-5091/622-5092

For full information/brochure:

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—APR. 2 (Friday):

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—APR. 3 (Saturday):

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—APR. 4 (Sunday):

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