

# Frequently Asked Questions about Redress

**Q. Why seek redress? What are the issues?**  
The Japanese American Citizens League is seeking redress on behalf of Japanese Americans and legal permanent residents of Japanese ancestry (the Issei) for their eviction

and incarceration by an official act of the United States Government during World War II. This action was based solely on racial grounds and imposed without criminal charges, indictments or trials of any kind. It was a gross violation of rights

guaranteed under the Bill of Rights and the Constitution. The basic question being raised is: are the guarantees enumerated in the Bill of Rights and the Constitution absolute for all people at all times, or are they conditional

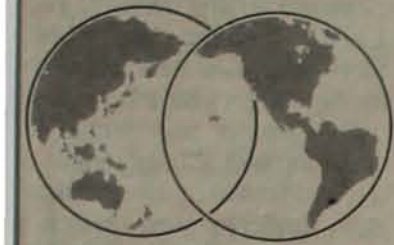
and subject to the desires of those in power or the mood of the times?

**Q. Which rights were violated?**  
Seven of the ten articles of the Bill of Rights were abrogated. They are as follows:

**Article I:** (a) freedom of religion, (b) freedom of speech, (c) freedom of the press, (d) the right to assemble  
**Article II:** (e) right to keep and bear arms  
**Article IV:** (f) freedom from unreasonable searches and

seizures  
**Article V:** (g) right to an indictment or to be informed of the charges, (h) right to life, liberty, and property  
**Article VI:** (i) right to speedy and public trial, (j) right to be  
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5. EDC-MDC Convention Aug. 11-14.

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### Matsui lauds CWRIC for outstanding job

WASHINGTON—Rep. Robert T. Matsui (D-3d CA) Friday (June 17) commended the national Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians on the "outstanding job it has done in documenting for present and future generations this sad chapter in American history, the unwarranted relocation and internment of 120,000 civilians of Japanese descent."

The CWRIC recommendations were released June 16 and were based on a 2½-year study by the Commission of the WW2 relocation and internment program. The CWRIC recommendations will now be submitted to the U.S. Congress for consideration.

The House judiciary committee intends to examine the report in public hearings for the purpose of recommending legislation to Congress.

(Sen. Spark Matsunaga saluted the Commission for "keeping the ideals of American democracy uppermost in their minds while formulating their recommendations and discharging their duties"... The onetime \$20,000 per capita payment "can never fully compensate those who were placed in camps, but it can serve a symbol of apology in a recognizable, concrete form".

(Rep. Norman Mineta said while putting a dollar value to loss of freedom in an internment camp were "immeasurable; we can, however, begin to measure the billions of dollars forfeited in lost property, lost businesses and lost salaries".

"The Commission's recommendations are careful and well reasoned, clearly demonstrating the Commission's commitment to finding a just and equitable remedy for the injustice of internment," Matsui said. Among its recommendations, the Commission requested payment of \$20,000 to each internee now living, based substantially on an analysis performed for the CWRIC covering the tangible loss of property and income.

"But no dollar amounts can truly compensate for those years of in-

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### 'Sunday Morning'

SEATTLE—CBS-TV's "Sunday Morning" news program is expected to include a segment on Japanese American redress this Sunday, June 26, the PNWDC regional office here learned.

### Reading concert

LOS ANGELES—Don Magwili and Sachiko of East West Players will present "Recollections and Rice", a concert of songs, stories and foolishness June 24, 8 p.m. at Amerasia Bookstore, 321 Towne Ave.

### CWRIC's 11 RECOMMENDATIONS:

## \$20,000 to excludées, but not heirs

(Special to the Pacific Citizen)  
WASHINGTON — What was accomplished by the government in setting up the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (to review the facts and impact of Executive Order 9066, which led to excluding persons of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast and detaining nearly 110,000 during WW2) and its recommending appropriate remedies this past week (June 16) required

about four years from the time when the bills were submitted in Congress in 1979 to establish the Commission.

No one here was offering an idea of how much more time would pass before payments are "made to the oldest survivors first", as proposed.

The Congress must now act on the recommendations, which call for a fund to be administered by a presidential board to provide one-time payment of \$20,000 to each of

the approximate 60,000 former internees, but not for heirs of internees who have died.

(In Los Angeles, the news was greeted with anxious queries to the JACL Office: "Where do we sign up for the claims?" The recommendations note, "The burden should be on the government to locate survivors—without requiring any application for payment..."

**'Act of National Apology'**  
Five remedies each were recommended for some 60,000 American citizens of Japanese ancestry and resident Japanese aliens and

to the 900 Aleuts. The 11th point recommended the National Archives maintain the material amassed by the Commission for research.

The five recommendations concerning U.S. citizens of Japanese ancestry and resident Japanese aliens are:

(1) That Congress pass a joint resolution, signed by the President, recognizing "that grave injustice was done" and offering apologies of the Nation "for the acts of exclusion, removal and detention".

(2) That the President pardon

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## WW2 economic losses estimated to \$6.2 billion

WASHINGTON — A study of economic losses of Japanese Americans and resident aliens of Japanese ancestry who were excluded from the West Coast and interned during World War II estimates that the ethnic Japanese lost between \$149 million and \$370 million in 1945 dollars, and adjusting these figures to account for inflation alone, between \$810 million and \$2 billion in 1983 dollars.

Uncompensated net losses in 1983 dollars, adjusted for a 3% interest rate plus inflation, were estimated from \$2.5 billion to \$6.2 billion.

Issued on June 15, the study was conducted for the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians by ICF Inc., a Washington consulting firm.

"The excluded people suffered enormous damages and losses, both material and intangible," said CWRIC chair Joan Z. Bernstein. "The purpose of the study

has been to analyze the extent of the economic loss and develop reasonable and reproducible estimates of that loss.

"The analysis deals with property loss that was not compensated in claims paid under the Japanese American Evacuation Claims Act of 1948 and income loss incurred by the detainees. Undoubtedly, the ethnic Japanese suffered many other kinds of losses from their lives being uprooted and from their careers and education being disrupted, but the scope of this analysis is limited to a determination under rigorously applied analytical methods of only income and property losses during the detention period from 1942 to 1946," she said.

### Losses Shown in Four Ways

The ICF analysis concludes that because the losses under investigation occurred some 40 years ago, there is no straightforward way to present a single figure for the value of losses incurred by the ethnic Japanese community. For each estimate of loss, figures are presented in four ways for:

- (1) the value of the loss in 1945 dollars—\$149 million to \$370 million;
- (2) value of the loss in 1983 dol-

lars to account for inflation—\$810 million to \$2 billion;

(3) value of the loss in 1983 dollars at actual corporate bond rates over the years—\$1.2 billion to \$3.1 billion; and

(4) value of the loss in 1983 dollars when both a 3% real interest rate and inflation—\$2.5 billion to \$6.2 billion.

### Losses of 88,000 Detainees

Adjustments for foregone interest are made to account for the fact that had the loss not occurred, the amount lost could have been invested between 1945 and 1983.

The Commission was created by Congress in 1980 to review the facts and circumstances surrounding the Executive Order 9066 of Feb. 19, 1942, signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt which led to the exclusion of approximately 120,000 Americans and resident aliens of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast. An estimated 5,000 to 10,000 were impelled to leave the West Coast on their own. Another 110,000 people were removed and detained in bleak, isolated camps.

The ICF analysis of income loss covers the 88,000 adults detained in camps. It does not cover those individuals who removed themselves

from the West Coast prior to exclusion.

### Net Income Losses

Estimates of net income loss of these detainees are based on projected income minus actual compensation (monetary and in-kind) received in camp and accumulated over the entire camp period. Result is that the total net loss of income suffered by the ethnic Japanese falls:

- (1) between \$108 million and \$164 million in 1945 dollars;
- (2) between \$589 million and \$893 million in 1983 dollars to account for inflation alone;
- (3) between \$892 million and \$1.4 billion in 1983 dollars to account for the corporate bond rate;
- (4) between \$1.8 billion and \$2.7 billion in 1983 dollars to account for inflation and 3% real interest.

"Property losses were incurred by many if not all ethnic Japanese during the war, for a variety of reasons," the ICF study says. "Some sold their property at a loss before evacuation; and some property was damaged, partially or wholly destroyed, or lost while in the care of others during the detention years."

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## Chicago's Japanese: ethnic identity boils away in melting pot

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Article by Michelle Stevens, reprinted with permission.

Chicago

Japan may be a growing giant in international trade but Chicago's already tiny Japanese community is getting even smaller as Japanese Americans strive to blend into the American melting pot.

As many as 25,000 Japanese Americans settled in the Chicago area after World War II, but only 15,000 remain. Most of the estimated 6,000 who now live in the city have settled in Edgewater, Uptown, Lake View and Hyde Park.

The Japanese language and customs also are disappearing. With each new generation, fewer Japanese Americans speak the native language. Fewer still practice Buddhism, the traditional religion. And, increasingly, the younger generation is marrying outsiders.

Even the names are changing, with Keiths and Jennifers outnumbering the Kazumis and Mikos.

"As [with] other ethnic groups, the kids rebel," said Jim Nishimura, office manager of the Midwest Buddhist Temple,

435 W. Menomonee. "After they graduate high school, they think they are grown and they want to cut the apron strings, so to speak.

"So they move away from home; they don't go to Sunday school [to learn the language and religion] anymore. They go out of town to school. And they rarely come back."

Arthur T. Morimitsu, president of the Japanese American Service Committee, estimates that less than 20 percent of Chicago's Sansei, or third-generation population, can speak Japanese. But he's not surprised.

"After all, English is their native tongue," said Morimitsu, a 70-year-old Nisei, or second generation, who learned Japanese in military intelligence school.

A few organizations offer Japanese-language courses, but students of Japanese descent are a minority in many classes, indicating a lack of interest.

If Chicago's Japanese community lacks strong language ties, efforts are under way to keep the culture alive through other traditional Japanese activities.

A Saturday night Japanese-language radio program, "Sakura Hour," 9 p.m. on WSBC-AM (1240) and the Chicago Shimpō, a

Japanese-language newspaper, provide cultural sustenance for interested Japanese.

The Buddhist church also sponsors traditional Japanese activities, such as the religious Obon festival in July and the Ginza cultural festival in August, where participants wear colorful kimonos and dance to Japanese music.

"We are Americans first, but we still want to preserve our Japanese culture," said Fumio Toyoda, president of the Japanese Cultural Center, 1016 W. Belmont. "We specialize in teaching living arts that can be passed on directly from one person to another."

The center opened in 1977 as a dojo, or training hall, for teaching the martial art of aikido. Since then, it has added courses in karate and kendo (Japanese fencing), Zen (meditation), kyudo (archery), massage, ikebana (flower arrangement) and the traditional tea ceremony.

And there are some other bright signs. Natalia Sugioka, superintendent of the Japanese language school at Midwest Buddhist Temple, has noticed a renewed interest in the language among young Japanese.

Continued on Page 3



# Top quality sign given Little Tokyo renewal

LOS ANGELES—Little Tokyo has successfully navigated a difficult course in the last 13 years, resisting the encroachment of the Civic Center and Skid Row and attracting high-quality new development without losing its status as a robust ethnic community. Its next challenge may be to avoid the pitfalls of success.

One of the key factors in the rapid transformation of Little Tokyo from an aging, deteriorating neighborhood to a vibrant commercial, residential and tourist center was the solid support of local residents and businessmen for new development and the Community Redevelopment Agency's efforts. That local support has led to a radical change in the way outside investors and developers look at Little Tokyo.

"The bankers are now competing for participation in projects, land values are booming and we have proposals for office towers of 300,000- to 400,000-square feet," says H. Cooke Sunoo, project manager of the CRA's Little Tokyo Redevelopment Project.

With Little Tokyo now firmly established as an attractive neighborhood for developers, the community's attitude has begun to change from one of "blind encouragement of development," according to Sunoo.

"For the first time there are being heard some faint thoughts that perhaps community scale should be controlled," Sunoo says.

"Growth and development still seem to be a unanimous goal, but the definitions are beginning to be tightened up."

Sunoo was quick to note that there is no serious opposition to any projects now planned, but there is concern about "projects that might come downstream."

One proposal several years ago for a 300,000 square foot office building, he noted, was dropped after receiving a "lukewarm reception" from the community.

One of the great successes of Little Tokyo redevelopment has been the ability of the CRA and local residents to sustain and even enhance a true community, not just a commercial center.

Along with the New Otani Hotel and the Higashi Honganji Buddhist Temple, the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center and the Little Tokyo Towers senior citizen housing project are the main structures in the area.

See Page 5  
Bill Hosokawa visits Little Tokyo and finds changes to be spectacular.

Left to operate on its own, the real estate market would probably dictate dense commercial development on the remaining underdeveloped lots in Little Tokyo, possibly dwarfing and diluting the



**BEFORE AND AFTER**—Extent of damage (upper) is recognizable to award-winning Iwasaki-Thomas Bldg. (lower), 424-428 Boyd St., south of Little Tokyo Towers and the JACCC. Conversion was made possible with financial assistance from the L.A. Community Redevelopment Agency and Kyowa Bank of California. It received the 1982 Calif. Bldg. Award of Excellence for adaptive rehabilitation from Calif. Building Officials.



strength of the ethnic community. More commercial developments are planned, but so are condominiums, hospitals, theatres and museums.

"Trying to create a balance of these developments is critical," says Sunoo.

Balance and community scale is evident in the projects now in the construction, planning or active negotiation stages.

—Construction began in April on a 60,000 square foot office building to house California First Bank which has been doing business in Little Tokyo for 70 years. Completion is scheduled for mid-1985.

—A partnership of local businessmen Bob Honda and Tien Fu Hsu, Little Tokyo Housing Development Ltd., is set to start construction this summer on the first market-rate housing for Little Tokyo in over 50 years, a 168-unit condominium development.

CRA funds will be used to subsidize 23 percent of the units for moderate-income households.

—Five properties along First and Weller streets are working with the CRA to assemble their properties for a commercial-office-hotel development on the site.

Sunoo said negotiations are already under way with a major developer.

—Another hotel is in the planning stages for the south side of First Street between San Pedro Street and Central Avenue, by a group of local developers, Sunny International Development.

Sunoo said the investors al-

ready have an operating commitment from an unidentified major hotel chain.

—A 50-year-old "Art Deco" industrial building at the southwest corner of Central and Second known as Brunswick Square will be rehabilitated by developer Mike Kamen's Mika Co.

Kamen, who has earned his reputation renovating downtown industrial buildings for

## Kadomoto honorary consul general

LOS ANGELES—Effective May 20, long-time Arizona community leader and JACler Tom Kadomoto was elevated from honorary consul of Japan at Phoenix to honorary consul general in a decision made by the Foreign Ministry, it was announced by Yoshifumi Matsuda, Japanese consul general here.

Since 1977, Kadomoto has served in his consular capacity with distinction, Matsuda said, not only in problems affecting nationals of Japan but in the field of legal, economic and cultural affairs which normally is a part of the functions of the local consulate but which, because of the distance factor, has been handled by Kadomoto. His role would be primarily of a liaison nature.

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lofts and other uses, plans to convert the former factory into 80,000 square feet of office space and 34,000 square feet of retail space.

—Taira Investment Corp., headed by local businessman Al Taira, has two projects in the planning stages.

One is a 300-room hotel on San Pedro between Second and Third streets. The other, officially outside the Little Tokyo Redevelopment Project but closely related is a proposed complex including a shopping center, medical office building and church, south of Third between Central and Alameda.

—The Jodoshu Temple is considered the development of a major Buddhist temple in conjunction with a small commercial and martial arts center south of Third between San Pedro and Omar Avenue.

That development, says Sunoo, would provide a link between Little Tokyo and the renovated Iwasaki-Thomas Building, currently isolated to the south of Boyd Street.

Only two of the eight blocks in the Little Tokyo Redevelopment Project have been left largely untouched by the flurry of new construction.

One is the block bounded by First, Alameda, Second and Central, the other the block bordered by Los Angeles, Second, San Pedro and Third.

Several buildings on the latter block though have already been "subtly rehabilitated" by their owners, according to Sunoo, who hopes that small beginning sparks renewed interest in what he calls "the most removed corner of Little Tokyo."

The CRA is also conducting two planning studies in the Little Tokyo area.

One deals with the north

side of First Street, an area thus far largely untouched by new development. Sunoo said there is strong community support for retaining and renovating the existing buildings to preserve a sense of the community's history and leave an example of what Little Tokyo looked like during the first half of the century.

The northside has already landed a five-year lease as the temporary home of the Museum of Contemporary Art, which will move to Bunker Hill when California Plaza is built.

In addition, a Japanese American foundation has pro-

posed establishing a museum of Japanese American history in the old Nishi Hongwanji on Central Ave., while another group has proposed a joint tenancy for a non-profit medical clinic and a theater group in the old Union Church.

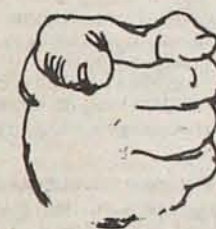
The CRA is working with an ad hoc advisory group to consider formation of a new development project east of Little Tokyo centered on First Street corridor east of Alameda to Vignes Street.

The area is now a mixed neighborhood of heavy industry, residential hotels, artists' lofts, galleries and churches.

—Kashu Mainichi

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## CHICAGO

Continued from Page 1

"Some of them just want to be able to read Japanese-language fairy tales and other books. Others want a foundation in the language so they will get better grades when they take Japanese in college.

"Some are planning to travel to Japan and want to say a few words to their uncles and cousins in their native language.

"But the children especially want to communicate with their grandparents," Sugioka said. "They want to be able to say even little things like 'hello' to please them."

The trim, fit-and-preppy Nishimura is the epitome of the successful American. He recently retired as an engineer for Ryerson Steel Co., where he worked for 33 years. He wears Izod sweaters and drives a Ford.

Like many second-generation, American-born Japanese, Nishimura rapidly adopted the American way of life. Unlike many of his peers, he also has maintained the culture and traditions with which he grew up.

"If the kids lived around their grandparents, they could easily pick up the language," Nishimura said. "But not having that, it is impossible to learn" without formal training.

"When I was growing up in Seattle, we were literally forced to go to a Japanese-language school. But parents are less strict today, and not many kids are forced to learn it."

A 1978 University of Maryland study showed that the younger generation is increasingly unable to speak Japanese—one of the strongest indications of ethnic assimilation.

While only three percent of second-generation Japanese

could not speak Japanese, the non-fluency rate jumped to almost 35 percent among third-generation Japanese.

In Chicago, the rate is worse. Only 20 percent of third-generation Japanese Americans can speak the language, social and civic organization spokesmen said, and most who can speak the language are young people who regularly talk to Issei, or Japanese Americans born in Japan.

About 75 percent of Japan's population is Buddhist, and Christianity is practiced by less than one percent. Chicago's Japanese community is almost equally divided between Buddhists and Christians.

Membership in the Midwest Buddhist Temple is about 350 active members, down from about 600 when it was established in 1944 by a then-growing Japanese community. Other Buddhist temples also report declining memberships, due to the dwindling Japanese population.

The Japanese American population in the United States increased from 588,000 in 1970 to the current level of 716,000. Almost all of the new settlers are on the West Coast.

In Illinois, about 15,000 Japanese Americans live in the six-county metropolitan area, most in suburban Wilmette, Elk Grove Village and Long Grove.

The number of Japanese in the city is down to 6,000 from 8,000 in 1980 and 11,000 in 1970. They represent only three-tenths of one percent of the city's population, and two-tenths of one percent of the six-county area.

But wherever they settle, Japanese Americans have maintained a proud heritage of thrift, education and hard work.

## Discipline to Hard Work

"I don't know if hard work is a trait among the Japanese or the Chinese, or Koreans and other Orientals, but we were disciplined to work hard," Nishimura said.

That work ethic followed the first wave of Japanese immigrants at the turn of the century who settled along the West Coast in Washington, Oregon and California.

Though hired for menial jobs that paid little, the immigrants quietly performed their tasks, saved their money and bought farms and businesses. They sent for their families and formed tight-knit communities where they carried on their ethnic traditions.

Many of those communities were torn apart during World War II as 110,000 people of Japanese ancestry were placed in detention camps.

Many lost the homes and businesses they had worked so hard to build.

"My family was a victim of the war hysteria," said Nishimura, whose father lost the 20-unit apartment building he owned in Seattle.

At the time, the Japanese had a few days to get rid of their homes, furnishings, cars and businesses—either by selling them or leaving them in Uncle Sam's custody.

"Very few" Japanese lived in Chicago before the war, said Bill Yoshino, regional director of the Japanese American Citizens League. But when the war ended, 20,000 to 25,000 came here to make their fortunes and rebuild their lives.

The mean income of Japanese and other Orientals was \$25,341 in 1980, just under the \$25,661 earned by whites, but well ahead of the \$17,393 earned by Hispanics and the \$16,966 earned by blacks.

That income is mainly earned in professional fields such as engineering, law, medicine and business, according to the Japanese Chamber of Commerce. About 90 percent of the Japanese in Chicago are college graduates, a chamber spokesman said.

Nishimura attributes the Japanese Americans' postwar achievements to hard work and ethnic pride.

"After the war, the Japanese people had to start all over with no money and no belongings. The ones who found jobs had to work hard to support the entire family," he said.

"When Japanese families were dispersing after the camps, the elders warned, 'Do an honest day's work. Don't do anything to bring shame to yourself or your family. And above all, do not bring dishonor to the Japanese people.'"

Nishimura, for one, remembered those admonitions when he went to work for Ryerson Steel in 1945.

"Non-Japanese people would look at me and they had never seen a Japanese person before. You had to be on your toes," he said. "You didn't want to be known as lazy or irresponsible, which would bring shame on the Japanese people. So whenever I was sick or whatever, I'd go in anyway."

Darrel Montero, a University of Maryland professor who studied the gains of three generations of Japanese Americans, said the group has made great strides.

"It is remarkable that within a generation [they] have been able to out-achieve the total U.S. population," he said. "And they have done this against the backdrop of very irregular immigration patterns and against a great deal of discrimination."

But Montero's study, commissioned by the Japanese American Citizens League, also showed that in their zeal to adopt the American culture, the Japanese were rapidly losing their ethnic identity.

The study indicated that the rate to intermarriage between Japanese Americans and non-Orientals—a strong indicator of assimilation—jumped from 10 percent among the Nisei to 40 percent among the Sansei.

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## Natsu Matsuri

CHICAGO—Enjoy a taste of Japan at the annual Natsu Matsuri, sponsored by the Buddhist Temple of Chicago, 1151 W. Leland Ave., July 2-3. Chicken teriyaki, sushi, udon and somen will be served in the atmosphere of the Japanese fine arts festival.

## PC PEOPLE

## ● Award

Kenneth K. Tanaka, Torrance, a 23-year employee with Aerospace Corp., El Segundo, was named Asian-Pacific American of the Year among administrative personnel. He is group controller for administration.

## Pacific Citizen

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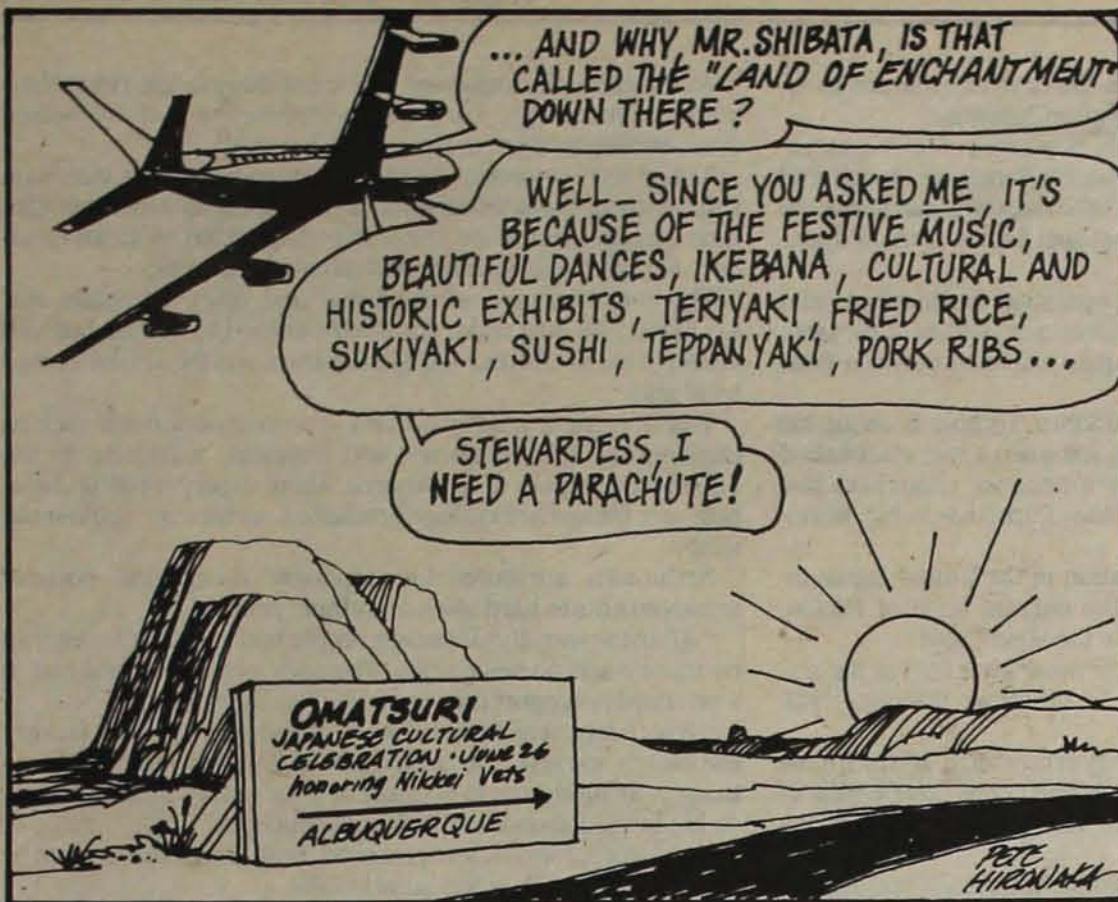
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EAST WIND: by Bill Marutani



## Buying on Credit

Philadelphia

ONE OF THE LESSONS handed down to most, if not all, Nisei from our parents was not to make purchases on credit, particularly "luxury" items. Now, this doesn't sound unreasonable but for the fact that "luxury" was anything other than the essential clothing owned and the food to be eaten. Thus the lesson was: "If you don't need it, don't buy it." So ingrained has been this approach about credit buying, that in our entire life, we've made only one purchase on credit: buying a house.

WE SEE ADS in newspapers encouraging people to get a loan to go on a vacation. That would cause shudders among the Issei generation: "How can anyone, who can't save enough money to go on vacation, afford a vacation?" Having been brought up as a Nisei, I can't quarrel with that logic. Indeed, that's plain economic sense, Nisei or non-Nisei.

WHEN IT CAME to business, however, it was a different story. Although we were a bit young back in those days, we perceived, from overhearing bits of conversation among the Issei, that farmers customarily and routinely bought seeds and fertilizer on credit, trusting that the weather and prices would cooperate to keep them out of the hole. Apparently, many times they didn't quite make it, although they survived.

IN THE MEANTIME, as Nisei youngsters and then youths, there were many things we desired that our classmates often took for granted: a new bicycle, going to movies regularly, going to the shore, getting a "jalopy." These youthful aspirations would, often as not, be cut off with one word—*zeitaku*—and we were reminded, in place thereof, of the concept of *shimatsu*. Between *zeitaku* and *shimatsu*, there was precious little left.

THIS IS NOT to say that we were "deprived". True, from a material standpoint we were by no means wallowing in luxury, but then neither were our parents. In terms of spiritual and moral guidance, they more than made up for any difference. Even though we may not have fully realized it at the time.

LOOKING BACK FROM today's perspective, however, I must admit that there are a couple of areas where I wished our Issei parents had been a bit less stringent. For example, musical lessons, such as learning to play the piano, would have provided a treasured outlet in later life. In this respect, whatever stifled talents we might have, have been limited to blowing on a harmonica. (Based upon how we play that instrument, our parents probably were quite wise in not encouraging a cacophony on the keyboards.) Then, too, we think we might have appreciated fine art today had we been inoculated at a tender age: instead, we engage in defensive remarks about art, such as: "Which side is up?"

"BUYING ON CREDIT" as to these *zeitaku* areas would have been worth it. The only problem was that we would have been pulled off the farm. And we had to eat first.

## Letters

Brief comments are welcome from PC readers on the 11 CWRIC recommendations (elsewhere in this issue). Undoubtedly, early reactions printed in the media during the initial round were made by individuals who had not seen the specifics. The entire June 18 CWRIC Recommendations, we call "The 11 Points", will be printed in the July 8 PC. Some of the language, it should be noted, has appeared in the CWRIC Summary (see June 10 PC).—GM/Oper.

### ● Mitsue Takahashi

In the controversy of Mitsue Takahashi and Livingston School District the primary purpose of education seems to be forgotten. That purpose is to provide and protect the rights of children to have good learning experience; the primary purpose is not to protect the rights of teachers, administrators, classified personnel, parents and/or Board members.

Supporters of Takahashi never appear to make inquiry of her teaching competence or her on the job performance. Being familiar with the changing community and school population, the challenges which transition impose on school teachers, and because I support the rights of students I support the School Board and Administration's courageous decision.

The case is now in the Fifth District Court of Appeal and the community is awaiting the decision as to whether Takahashi was summarily dismissed. Community members who support the school district will probably remain silent until the decision is made by the Court.

As racism and sexism are strong evil forces in our society I appreciate the work of concerned people who are engaged in this struggle. However, each situation needs to be carefully assessed with all involved parties receiving fair consideration.

FRANCES KIRIHARA  
Livingston, Ca.

My spirit is down at reading about the Mitsue Takahashi case in Livingston, Calif., practically my home-town. I attended Livingston High School and lived there for a short while. They are a community of wonderful people and I love each one of them.

To see the Livingston-Merced JACL split asunder in this matter hurts me deeply. I think one solution is to take a chapter vote and have the majority rule.

Some years ago, the PSWDC voted for the impeachment of the National Director. You can imagine I completely lost my temper. But realizing majority rules, I was placated fully.

I pray that Livingston-Merced Chapter will solve this problem. Forgive and be forgiven. Go on to new horizons of love, concern and service.

MACK YAMAGUCHI  
Pasadena, Calif.

## Commentary

# Grave Injustice of Another Kind

By JIM OKUTSU

The Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, this past February, described the forced evacuation and detention of Japanese Americans during World War II as a "grave injustice." Now, we have Grave Injustice II, but as is true with most sequels, this one is a stinker. The Hearst press has done it again. (See San Francisco Examiner, June 5). Historically known for its sensationalist journalism, the news organization's Washington bureau has disseminated a feature by Laurence McQuillan on alleged Japanese American espionage activities prior to Pearl Harbor.

Send 20¢ in stamps and self-addressed stamped envelope to the PC office for a copy of the article mentioned by Mr. Okutsu. GM/O)

The timeliness of the article is more than coincidental with the Commission's plan to present a redress recommendation to Congress later this month. Could this reflect a renewed attempt to exonerate the government of any wrong-doing towards Japanese American?

The basis of McQuillan's article is a multi-volume publication of the Department of Defense which discloses translations of Japanese diplomatic code dispatches prior to December 7, 1941. (See June 3

PC). American intelligence had deciphered secret messages between the Japan Foreign Office and its diplomatic stations around the world in a project called "Magic".

While appearing to be objective, McQuillan's reporting suffers from an alarming incompleteness that distorts and sensationalizes. The focus of this journalistic piece is almost entirely on Japanese Americans and blacks as possible agents for Japan.

In actuality, the Japanese government's intelligence efforts were directed towards recruiting informants from a variety of sources. These included anti-Semites, labor unions, leftists, blacks, Japanese Americans and nationals. So why does McQuillan single out Japanese Americans and blacks?

No mention is made of an ultra-conservative white group called the "Silver Shirts" whose leader branded President Roosevelt a communist and requested an alliance with the Japanese government on numerous occasions. Tokyo apparently turned him down.

While it is clear that the Japanese government hoped to capitalize on the support of politically and economically disenfranchised groups in America, in terms of actual significant intelligence information transmitted through the secret code, little of value appears evident.

Moreover, only a few instances of actual minor information attri-

buted to Japanese American sources is stated. It is more of a "what we hope" tenor rather than a "what is happening" situation. But, even if Japanese Americans were involved in espionage activities (and history has verified that no charges were ever brought against Japanese Americans), it is insufficient military justification to remove all Americans of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast. This group action clearly violated constitutional guarantees.

Also lacking in the McQuillan article is any mention of the organized German and Italian intelligence activities in America. Yet, as we all know, Germans and Italians were not banished to concentration camps.

Since we are dealing with allegations, McQuillan does not mention messages of alleged acts of sabotage by the American government on Japanese residents. There were complaints of Japanese newspapers and magazines being delayed or confiscated and that shiploads of Japanese leaving America were strip searched due to an unfounded rumor that Japanese departees were smuggling U.S. money out of the country.

McQuillan's only significant comment is his noting that the Japanese government automatically assumed that the Issei and Nisei would be loyal to Japan rather than to America. In the case of the Nisei, all those born before 1924 were assumed to be dual citizens of both countries.

Thus, the Japanese government misjudged that the Nisei would swear allegiance to Japan by reason of ancestry and of the intense racial prejudice they faced in America. It is tragically ironic that the American government wrongly believed the same thing. It is further ironic because the racial discrimination only served to make the Nisei want to become more assimilated, more American.

The article ends rather abruptly with a reference to an urgent survey requested by Tokyo to ascertain the number of Japanese Americans wishing to be "evacuated". Here, McQuillan seems unable to distinguish between Japanese and Japanese Americans and implies the wrong evacuation.

With relations rapidly deteriorating between the two countries, the Japanese government wanted to send a special ship to "evacuate" Japanese back to Japan. Hence the survey which was limited to include only Japanese nationals—government officials, businessmen and destitute Japanese.

No mention is made of an interesting message by Yoshio Muto, Japanese consul general in San Francisco, who noted that Issei farmers, well-established Issei, Nisei eligible for the draft in Japan and Nisei who have never been to Japan all indicated a strong desire to remain in America despite a termination of Japanese and American relations.

Moreover, no questioning is made of the authenticity of the cable translations themselves. Current articles in the Japanese media propose that the translators lacked sufficient knowledge of the Japanese language and cultural nuances resulting in misinterpretations.

Finally, a curious message that was overlooked by McQuillan was from the American ambassador to Japan to the Secretary of State in January 1941. Ambassador Grew relayed information of a surprise massive attack on Pearl Harbor in the event of trouble between the two countries. He noted that he was passing on the information, although it sounded too "fantastic".

Jim Okutsu is an assistant professor of Asian American Studies, San Francisco State University.

## JACL 'extremely pleased' with CWRIC recommendations

SAN FRANCISCO—National JACL Headquarters, in its statement June 16, was "extremely pleased" with the recommendations of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians presented earlier in the day at a hastily-called press conference in Washington. The recommendations were to be made June 22, except that the Sacramento Bee's Washington Bureau had acquired the report and released it.

The JACL statement, announced by Ron Wakabayashi, national director, is as follows:

\* \* \*

The JACL appreciates the efforts of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians for presenting substantial final recommendations to the Administration and the Congress as a means of rectifying the grave injustices of the exclusion and detention of American citizens of Japanese ancestry and others during WW2.

While we believe the recommendations of the Commission cannot truly compensate all persons of Japanese ancestry for the magnitude of the wrongs committed against us, we believe the total recommendation warrants serious consideration by the Japanese American Citizens League.

We are extremely pleased that the Commission has seen fit to recommend individual monetary compensation in symbolic recognition of the personal suffering loyal Americans were forced to experience as a result of the government's action. Furthermore, we are pleased that the Commission has also recommended the establishment of a fund to be used for public educational and humanitarian purposes as a memorial to one of the bleakest episodes in this nation's history.

We commend the distinguished members of the Commission on the completion of a difficult Congressional mandate to present to this nation their findings and recommendations, both of which reflect the courage of the individual commissioners and their collective belief in the democratic principles by which we govern ourselves as a nation.

It is our hope that the U.S. Congress will deliberate these recommendations into legislative mandates, to rectify a grave injustice of the past and insure the democratic principles of this nation for the future.

## MATSUI

Continued from Page 1

tangible loss of personal liberty and opportunity, along with the insult of having one's loyalty called into question. This report demonstrates the enormity of the injustice that occurred, and for the first time, an impartial body has fully documented for all history this gross violation of constitutional rights," Matsui said.

"The commission's findings and recommendations now constitute the standard by which all accounts of this tragic episode will be measured," Matsui added. "This is the important basis for the study of this issue for present and future generations."

"Now it is the responsibility of Congress to address the recommendations of the Commission and deal with this issue in the context of the federal budget and competing needs of society."



FROM THE FRYING PAN: by Bill Hosokawa



## Beautiful changes in Little Tokyo

Los Angeles

If you haven't been in Little Tokyo recently, say the last couple of years, be on notice that spectacular things are happening. They are centered around the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center complex on South San Pedro Street where a blocky five-story Center Building was completed in 1980. It houses a library, an art gallery, offices and meeting rooms for dozens of non-profit community groups.

Adjacent to the Center Building is the magnificent James Irvine Japanese garden, a green oasis of running water and growing plants isolated from the harsh pressures of the metropolis. Nearby is the 841-seat Japan America Theatre, opened only a few weeks ago with proper ceremony, a jewel of an auditorium to showcase cultural events.

And between the two buildings a spacious plaza, designed by Isamu Noguchi and featuring one of his huge stone sculptures, is taking shape. It is expected to be ready in time for Nisei Week.

But this is not all; the complex is merely the centerpiece for other public and private endeavors. Nearby are the Union Church, Little Tokyo Towers, the 300-plus unit low-rent apartment house, the Higashi Honganji Buddhist Temple. Not far away are the New Otani Hotel, Weller shopping court, and the Japanese Village Plaza shopping area. California First Bank is getting ready to erect a new building. Bruce Kaji of Merit Savings has a twin tower project in the planning stage. There are other ambitious projects.

One recent morning Harry Honda provided the broad picture from the upper floors of the Center Building, and later Katsumi Kunitzugu, executive secretary of the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, escorted us on a guided tour. What we saw was, to say the least, impressive and a distant cry from anything Japanese Americans could have dreamed of four decades ago when they were banished into concentration camps by wartime hysteria.

At war's end they must have come back with grave misgivings to the seedy, dilapidated area in the shadow of City Hall. The War Relocation Authority, which was looking to the long future of Japanese Americans, had urged them to disperse, to make themselves less conspicuous, to avoid congregating in the old ghettos. It was good advice, but those who came back to Little Tokyo didn't heed it. They chose to try to revive their ethnic conclave.

And they made something far, far better of what had been home. The effort took vision, talent, dedication, courage. And money. Lots of money. If any one person is more responsible than any other for the creation of the cultural center complex, he would be George J. Doizaki, dynamic, driving president of JACCC for eight of its most difficult years. He died in 1982 without seeing his project finished, but by then the groundwork had been completed. Doizaki had the vision, dedication and courage; he knew where he could find the talent and money.

But in a broader sense the cultural center is the product of the efforts and contributions of thousands of Japanese Americans and it is their particular pride. This is a showplace that demonstrates that the expanding Japanese American community has a home base, that it has sunk its roots into the fertile Southern California soil and produced a complex that does their culture and ethnic background proud.

\* \* \*

It took a hundred years, from the arrival of the first Issei, to build the center. It may stand and grow another century. Katsumi Kunitzugu has written with perception:

"Here, the Sansei, Yonsei and ensuing generations can come to touch their roots. Enlightened on their heritage and enriched by their past, they can confidently step forward to take their place in the great mosaic of American life."

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## JACL News

### Chapter reviews scholarship

HOOD RIVER, Ore.—While the Mid-Columbia JACL decided to cancel its annual graduation banquet this year, it allowed for a serious discussion by members at its general meeting May 20 at the H.R. Electric Co-op Building.

According to Yosh Kiyokawa, president, new guidelines on presenting awards were adopted:

1—That the money be used by winners attending a four-year college or university, community college, business or trade school of at least nine months.

2—That the funds not be given in a lump sum but divided in equal semesters or quarters during the first year.

Previous guideline for scholarships only stipulated the scholarship money be used during the following year to further the student's education.

As a JACL social function supported by membership dues, honorees at the graduation banquet have been invited by a mixed set of rules—sometimes, individuals were honored even though parents were not in JACL and other times graduates were not allowed to attend because their parents were not in JACL.

This problem will become more troublesome in the future. As a JACL function funded by JACL dues, it (must) be limited to graduates of JACL members, the chapter decided.

To resolve the problem, Kiyokawa suggested that those who do not wish to become JACL members might become honorary members at \$25 with all the money staying locally to support social affairs. "That way they can participate in all of our social functions," he said.

### Carson JACL's scholarship guidelines

CARSON, Ca.—Carson JACL chapter members who have students graduating high school or college planning to continue their studies are eligible for chapter scholarships. All that is necessary to be eligible is to show letters of acceptance by the school of the student's choice and attendance at the picnic to receive the award.

The chapter scholarship picnic will be held Sept. 11 at Dolphine Park. Aug. 15 is the entry deadline. For details call Ruth Sakamoto (328-6842).

### NCWNP awards based on achievement

SAN FRANCISCO—Guidelines for the NC-WNP district council scholastic awards (which has no monetary sums, but which would enhance a student's academic records) pursue quality among high school students whose parents or guardians are paid-up JACL members. Minimum GPA of 3.6 is required from freshman through the first semester of the senior year. PSAT, SAT or ACT scores, if available, are requested by the application form. Entry deadline was June.

### 'Making our move' theme of EDC-MDC convention

NEW YORK—With New York Chapter JACL as host, a "Big Apple" welcome is being planned for the EDC-MDC Convention at New York Sheraton on Aug. 11-14.

National JACL president Floyd Shimomura and national redress chair Min Yasui will head the list of dignitaries participating at the eventful parley, according to New York JACL president Tom Kometani and convention co-chair Ron Osajima and B.J. Watanabe.

Aside from separate Midwest and Eastern District Council meetings, two workshops have been slated: Joanne Yamauchi, professor of communications at American University, will share her skills in "Spreading the Word" on redress; Lindy Sata, chairman of the Dept. of Psychiatry at St. Louis University, will hold a seminar on "Asian Americans in the Work Environment".

Diversion during the action-oriented conclave includes a Broadway theater party and a dinner-dance.

Total registration package is \$80 with the "Early Bird" rate of \$75 good until July 1. Hotel accommodations are \$62 per room, per night, or \$31 per person per night based on double occupancy.

### Downtown L.A. hosts museum trip

LOS ANGELES—Fifty Issei residents of Little Tokyo Towers enjoyed a bus field trip to Pacific Asia Museum, Pasadena, last month, thanks to the Downtown Los Angeles JACL project, chaired by Mark Tsuneishi, program vice president.

They enjoyed box lunches and hot tea, served by chapter members before viewing the netsuke

exhibit on loan from the Peabody Museum, Salem, Mass.

The bus was made available by Darlene Kuba through the courtesy of Councilman Gilbert Lindsay's office. Chapter members participating were Lillian Fujimoto, Joyce Ishii, Dennis Kunisaki, Marilyn Nakada, Mary Nishimoto, Cynthia Ogawa, Mary Yamada and Grace Shiba.

### Bill Hosokawa retiring July 1

DENVER, Colo.—Denver Post publisher Lee J. Guittar announced June 10 that Bill Hosokawa, 68, will retire as editor of the editorial page as of July 1.

During his 37-year stint with The Post, Hosokawa began as copy editor in 1946, was its first foreign war correspondent while covering the Korean conflict, served as Sunday editor, executive news editor, assistant managing editor and associate editor. He edited the Sunday Empire Magazine for 17 years and has been director of the ed-op page since 1977.

His journalistic career started in 1933 on the Japanese American Courier in Seattle.



**SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS**—Seattle JACL scholarships go to from (left) Jeffrey Sakuma, Mary Ishii and Karen Kaminishi. Seated is Minoru Tamesa, major contributor to the chapter scholarship fund.

### Seattle awards four scholarships

SEATTLE, Wa.—Mary I. Ishii, Karen Kaminishi and Jeffery Paul Sakuma were this year's recipients of the Seattle JACL's annual scholarships, provided by the Minoru Tamesa and Rev. Emery Andrews Scholarship Funds. Each received \$500.

Mary, a senior at Renton High,

plans to major in computer science or engineering at college. Karen will attend Seattle Pacific University, concentrating on business with specialization in computer science. Jeffery is working on his Masters of Social Work at the Univ. of Washington and plans to attend law school, concentrating in Urban Juvenile Law.

### West L.A. scholarships awarded

LOS ANGELES—The West Los Angeles JACL scholarships were awarded June 4, at Yamato Restaurant in Century City.

Over a 100 members and guests attended the 20th annual dinner and heard from former recipients, Dean Takeda (son of Roy and Nancy), and Gail Yamanaka (daughter of Ben and Hisa). Dean spoke of his present position as computer programmer analyst at Transaction Technology Inc., Santa Monica, and his re-entry into the academic world for an MBA at Pepperdine. Gail reviewed her impressions as she studied at Stanford, then worked at Rockwell, and moving to Computervisions where she provides supervisory support for computer graphics equipment, and uses her degree as engineer for interfacing with clients.

Five young people were awarded \$500 scholarships: Kazuhiko Sano, Beverly Hills; Ann Takata, Kurt Eto and Edith Kaneshiro of University; and Grace Make of

North High, (Taye Isono Award).

Scholarship committee consisted of Charlie Inatomi, Satoshi Nitta, Ben Yamanaka, Walter Isono, Kiyo Teramae, Steve Yagi, Haru Nakata, Virginia Tominaga, Sid Yamazaki, and Jean Ushijima.

### Monterey JACLers re-certified in CPR

MONTEREY, Ca.—A program going back to 1979, Monterey Peninsula JACLers have again completed cardio-pulmonary resuscitation through Mid-Valley Fire Dept. A group of 24 was re-certified for 1983-84. As many as 78 have had CPR instructions, thanks to Nancy Nakajima, who has chaired the effort.

### Miss South Bay

TORRANCE, Ca.—Tracy Lynn Isawa, 22, CSU-Long Beach senior in business, is 1983 Miss South Bay JACL. She is the daughter of Jack/Colette Isawa, North Torrance.

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## CWRIC Report:

# Latin Americans

During World War II the United States expanded its internment program and national security investigations to Latin America on the basis of "military necessity." On the government's invitation, approximately 3,000 residents of Latin America were deported to the United States for internment to secure the Western Hemisphere from internal threats and to supply exchanges for American citizens held by the Axis. Most of these deportees were citizens, or their families, of Japan, Germany and Italy. Although this program was not conducted pursuant to Executive Order 9066, an examination of the extraordinary program of interning aliens from Latin America in the United States completes the account of federal actions to detain and intern civilians of enemy or foreign nationality, particularly those of Japanese ancestry.

What began as a controlled, closely monitored deportation program to detain potentially dangerous diplomatic and consular officials of Axis nations and Axis businessmen, grew to include enemy aliens who were teachers, small businessmen, tailors and barbers—mostly people of Japanese ancestry. Over two-thirds, or 2,300, of the Latin American internees deported to the United States were Japanese nationals and their families; over 80% came from Peru.<sup>1</sup> About half the Japanese internees were family members, including Nisei, who asked to join their husbands and fathers in camps pending deportation to Japan; family members were classified as "voluntary internees."<sup>2</sup>

Underlying these deportations was fear of Japanese attack in Latin America, particularly at the Panama Canal, which produced suspicion of Latin American Japanese. But a curious wartime triangle trade in Japanese aliens for internment developed, too. Some Latin American countries, particularly Peru, deported Japanese out of cultural prejudice and antagonism based on economic competition; the United States, in turn, sought Latin American Japanese internees to exchange with Japan for American citizens trapped in territories Japan controlled. The same dynamics often affected Germans and Italians.

Deportees from Peru for internment in the United States dominated the Latin American deportation program and thus this discussion centers on them. The history of the Japanese in Peru offers suggestive parallels to West Coast history.

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, expanding agriculture in Latin America attracted surplus skilled farm labor from Japan; by 1923 almost 20,000 Japanese had settled in Peru alone.<sup>3</sup> During the 1930's, economic depression in Japan and restricted immigration to the United States<sup>4</sup> drew more Japanese to Latin America, where 23,000 entered Brazil in a single year.<sup>5</sup> Worsening economic conditions in Latin America, however, brought discriminatory legislation and business practices aimed at these immigrants.

Japanese in Peru inherited years of prejudice earlier directed against Chinese immigrants. Many Japanese in Latin America had migrated to urban areas where they built close-knit communities, opened small businesses and gained economic independence. The Peruvian Japanese formed ethnic business associations and social organizations, and, although some Japanese married Peruvians and the typical family joined the Roman Catholic church,<sup>6</sup> many kept a love of Japan, nursed feelings of cultural superiority and sent their children to Japan for formal education. In Peru, most Japanese immigrants steadfastly refused Peruvian citizenship. This history fueled Peruvian resentment against them; economic competition, including fears of Japanese farmers and merchants monopolizing fertile land and some service industries, aggravated prejudice. Peru severely restricted Japanese immigration in 1936 and followed up by restricting the right to citizenship of some Peruvian Japanese, including Kibei. In 1940, when about 26,000 Japanese lived in Peru, including 9,000 Nisei,<sup>7</sup> riots broke out. Japanese businesses were destroyed and homes ransacked, and restrictive laws muzzled the Japanese press.

By 1940, the United States had become directly involved with security in Latin America. After the European war erupted in 1939, the government posted FBI agents in United States embassies in Latin America to compile information on Axis nationals and sympathizers.<sup>8</sup> Following Pearl Harbor, the United States immediately moved to secure the Western Hemisphere against dangerous enemy aliens. For the first time, Japanese-owned businesses in Latin America appeared on the United States' Proclaimed List of Blocked Nationals and were thus backlisted through economic warfare. After a meeting of Western Hemisphere nations early in 1942, the Emergency Advisory Committee for Political

## 3,000 residents of Latin America were deported to the United States for internment to secure the Western Hemisphere...

Defense was created, composed of representatives from the United States, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, Uruguay and Venezuela. The Committee forwarded to Latin American countries recommendations to control subversive activities and to secure the hemisphere, emphasizing internment of Axis nationals.<sup>9</sup> Several Latin American countries, severing ties with the Axis, imposed restrictions against Axis nationals.

Acting on Emergency Advisory Committee recommendations or in response to United States security efforts, sixteen Latin American countries interned at least 8,500 Axis nationals during World War II.<sup>10</sup> Economic and political pressure from the Proclaimed Lists and the Emergency Advisory Committee, coupled with Latin American nations' inability to establish costly security programs, encouraged the United States to accept Latin American enemy aliens for internment. Twelve Latin American countries—Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama and Peru—deported some or all of their enemy alien internees to the United States.<sup>11</sup> (Brazil and Venezuela did not.) Once in the United States, the State Department had custody and held internees in camps operated by the Justice Department's Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS).

● This issue's special feature is based on two factors:

(1) The Latin America JACL, based in the Pacific Southwest District Council—a chapter for Nikkei whose roots are Latin American, Peruvian in particular. JACLers know about this chapter where Spanish is the "native" tongue.

(2) The PANA convention is being staged July 14-17 in Lima, Peru, and many JACLers expect to attend. The reprinting of this chapter on Latin Americans from the CWRIC Report, "Personal Justice Denied" (U.S. Gov't Printing Office, \$8.50), here focuses on some other Americans of Japanese ancestry—"Americans" in the generic sense—from Peru.

The model of the Latin America deportation and internment program was developed in Panama. Before the war, the United States had agreed orally and informally with Panamanian officials to intern Japanese nationals during wartime. After the Pearl Harbor attack, Panama declared war on the Axis and froze Japanese assets. Japanese aliens were arrested by Panamanian and American agents for security reasons because they were near the Canal Zone. The War Department instructed the Commanding General of the Caribbean Defense Command to construct an internment camp in Panama for enemy aliens.<sup>12</sup> Panama later agreed to transfer internees to the United States to be traded for Western Hemisphere nationals held in Japan.<sup>13</sup>

In Peru, the State Department aimed to eliminate potential military threats and to integrate Peru's economy and government into the war effort. After war broke out, Peru notified the War Department that the United States could place military installations there; a small military force eventually encamped near the oil fields of northern Peru, and the United States promised \$29 million in armaments through Lend-Lease agreements, the largest pledge to a Latin American state.<sup>14</sup> Peru moved quickly against its Japanese residents, whose newspapers, organizations and schools were closed after December 7. Japanese assets were frozen, and the Proclaimed Lists brought hardship to Japanese businesses; some Peruvian Japanese were asked to leave. Before any deportations occurred, almost 500 Japanese registered repatriation requests at the Spanish Embassy, which represented Japan's interests in Peru.<sup>15</sup> This group was among the first to be deported. The initial targets of the American-Peruvian deportation program were enemy alien diplomatic and consular officials and some business representatives of Japan. Peru wished to deport all Japanese and other Axis nationals as well, but the United States recognized its limited need of Latin American Japanese for exchange with Japan; the problems of limited shipping facilities; and the administrative burden of a full-scale enemy alien deportation program. The United States limited the program to deporting officials and "dangerous" enemy aliens.

John K. Emmerson, Third Secretary of the American Embassy in Peru, who had been a language student in Japan and could speak and read Japanese fluently, was assigned to help the Peruvians identify "dangerous" aliens and compile deportation lists.<sup>16</sup> But deportations were in fact planned with little coordination between the United States and Peru, and Peru chose some deportees over others for no apparent reason, although bribery may have been involved. Moreover, the inaccurate portrayal by Peruvian officials of Peruvian Japanese as deceptive and dangerous encouraged the United States to deport and intern not only Japanese nationals, but some Peruvian citizens of Japanese descent.<sup>17</sup>

During early 1942, approximately 1,000 Japanese, 300 Germans and 30 Italians were deported from Peru to the United States, along with about 850 German, Japanese and Italian aliens picked up in Ecuador, Colombia, and Bolivia<sup>18</sup> and an additional 184 men from Panama and Costa Rica.<sup>19</sup> Normal legal proceedings were ignored and none of the Peruvians were issued warrants, granted hearings, or indicted after arrest. On entering the United States, officials of Axis nations were placed in State Department custody and private citizens were sent to INS internment camps in Texas. In most cases passports had been confiscated before landing, and the State Department ordered American consuls in Peru and elsewhere to issue no visas prior to departure.<sup>20</sup> Despite their involuntary arrival, deportees were treated by INS as having illegally entered this country.<sup>21</sup> Thus the deportees became illegal aliens in U.S. custody who were subject to deportation proceedings, i.e., repatriation.

Most of the first group of deportees from Peru were men, primarily diplomatic and consular officials, representatives of Japanese business interests, and private citizens targeted as community leaders and thus "believed to be dangerous." Categorical classifications of some as "believed to be dangerous" enabled the deportation of many private citizens because the United States was unwilling to investigate the need to deport each individual. As John Emmerson later stated: "Lacking incriminating evidence, we established the criteria of leadership and influence in the community to determine those Japanese to be expelled."<sup>22</sup>



M. Murakami Photo in the Washington Post (9-26-48)

**PERUANO NIKKEI IN U.S.**—The Peruvian Japanese children and some mothers are photographed against the background of workers' housing at Seabrook (N.J.) Farms where their fathers/husbands are employed. Those under 5 were born in this country and are U.S. citizens, but most were brought to the

U.S. from Peru against their will during World War II.

Adjacent story from the CWRIC Report, "Personal Justice Denied" (U.S. Gov't Printing Office, \$8.50), provides background to this episode.

By June 1942, many Latin American countries had severed diplomatic relations with the Axis nations. Lend-Lease and trade consignments between the United States and Latin America had strengthened hemispheric unity. But the United States was not confident that Latin America could control subversive activity and thus increased its interest in the deportation and internment program. By this time traffic in the exchange of Japanese and other Axis national for American citizens was growing. By early 1942, aided by Swiss and Spanish intermediaries, the United States and Japan had begun negotiating for the exchange of nationals, both officials and private citizens. By July, the United States had deported approximately 1,100 Latin American Japanese and 500 Germans to their home countries.<sup>23</sup> Enemy alien citizens who threatened nothing were uprooted from their homes to be used in the exchange. By August 1942, the State Department estimated that, in addition to the Americans caught as Japan advanced across the southwest Pacific, at least 3,300 Americans were trapped in China and available for exchange with Japan.<sup>24</sup> These considerable numbers increased American interest in receiving Japanese deportees from Latin America. But slow communications, problems in obtaining assurances that repatriates could pass safely through the war zone, shipping shortages, and Justice Department refusal to repatriate an individual against his will, delayed further repatriations for over a year. As a result, "dangerous" enemy aliens were deported to the U.S. at a comfortable pace for both Latin America and the United States, including INS administrators seeking to prevent overcrowding in the camps.

## Peru chose some deportees over others for no apparent reason, although bribery may have been involved.

In January 1943, after 200 more Japanese aliens had been deported from Peru, the Justice Department refused a State Department request for the deportation of another 1,000 Latin American Japanese.<sup>25</sup> Unsatisfied with the screening procedures of the American embassy in Peru as well as Peruvian practices in identifying dangerous individuals, the Justice Department sent Raymond Ickes of its Alien Enemy Control Unit to Peru to oversee the selection. Ickes, partially successful in overcoming low-level Peruvian officials' obstructionism and indifference, entertained a novel idea shared by other American officials in Peru and President Prado—to establish internment camps in Peru financed by the United States. The Administration had already requested appropriations to establish an internment camp in Cuba. Moreover, the State Department was reluctant to encourage Peru to breach international law by sending all its Peruvian Japanese from a nonbelligerent state directly to a belligerent one.<sup>26</sup> But the American embassy in Peru vetoed the Peruvians' camp idea, distrusting Peruvian officials' ability to intern dangerous individuals—a view supported by Peru's record in the deportation. As Emmerson had reported earlier: "since local police and other officials are susceptible to Japanese bribes, their alertness cannot be depended upon."<sup>27</sup> Indeed, Arthur Shinei Yakabi, a bakery worker deported from Peru, testified: "I was asleep in February 1943 when some Peruvian police came and arrested my employer. My employer pulled a fast one by bribing the police, and offered me as a substitute."<sup>28</sup> In addition, the embassy's view of the danger posed by Peruvian Japanese was changing by the end of summer 1943; Emmerson, now Second Secretary, was confident that the Japanese community no longer constituted a threat to security.<sup>29</sup> The Latin American country had initiated security measures compatible with United States standards. The Committee wanted agreements for deportation programs from Chile, Uruguay, Paraguay, Venezuela and Colombia.



The repatriation and exchange program proceeded slowly. In September 1943, over 1,300 Japanese left New York for Japan, over half from Peru, Panama, Costa Rica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Ecuador, Cuba, El Salvador and Guatemala; almost 40 percent of the entire contingent was from Peru.<sup>21</sup>

In the spring of 1944, the State Department realized that no more Axis nationals would be repatriated until the war was over. Nevertheless, from January to October 1944, over 700 Japanese men, women, children and 70 German aliens were deported from Peru to the United States, along with over 130 enemy aliens from Bolivia, Costa Rica and Ecuador.<sup>22</sup> Peru pushed for additional Japanese deportations, but the United States could not commit the shipping and did not want to augment the hundreds of Japanese internees awaiting repatriation. The State Department also decided not to repatriate Axis nationals against their will, realizing that many internees might not want to return to a devastated country. Thus deportation proceedings lagged and the INS internment camps became overcrowded.

Internees at INS camps in Crystal City, Kennedy and Seagoville, Texas, and Missoula, Montana, had two main concerns: having their families join them in the United States and repatriation to Japan. Living conditions at the camps were not unlike those in the war relocation centers. Confinement's bad effects were evident: lack of privacy, family breakdown, listlessness and uncertainty about the future. To safeguard the internees from unhealthy conditions, the camps were inspected routinely by Spain, the International Red Cross, the War Prisoners Aid of the YMCA and the YWCA, the American Friends Service Committee, and the National Catholic Welfare Conference. At the end of the war, approximately 1,400 Latin American Japanese, mostly from Peru, were interned in the United States, awaiting a decision on their destiny. Some wished to return to Latin America, others to Japan. To most it was a choice of the lesser of two evils: they had lost everything in Latin America, but Japan, which they had left to pursue greater economic opportunity, was devastated by the war. A number wanted to remain in the United States and begin anew.

As the end of the war approached in Summer 1945, the United States and other Western Hemisphere nations began to consider the postwar fate of interned Axis nationals. President Truman issued Proclamation 2655 authorizing the United States to deport enemy aliens deemed "to be dangerous to the public peace and safety of the United States."<sup>23</sup> The Latin American Conference on Problems of War and Peace passed a resolution recommending that persons deported for security reasons should be prevented from "further residing in the hemisphere, if such residence would be prejudicial to the future security or welfare of the Americas."<sup>24</sup>

The State and Justice Departments disagreed about security measures to take against interned enemy aliens. The Justice Department wanted to remove internees from its jurisdiction and divorce itself from the deportation and internment program; the State Department wanted to conclude the program by removing all dangerous Axis influences from the hemisphere.<sup>25</sup> As part of its long-term security strategy, in September 1945 the State Department secured a proclamation from President Truman directing the Secretary of State to remove any enemy aliens in the United States from the Western Hemisphere, including those from Latin America, who were illegal aliens and dangerous to hemispheric security.

In December 1945, approximately 800 Peruvian Japanese were voluntarily deported to Japan,<sup>26</sup> but in general the internment ended very slowly and tortuously. The United States sought to return internees who were not classified as dangerous and who refused deportation to Axis countries, to their points of origin in Latin America.<sup>27</sup> But the common hemispheric interests that bred the deportation had dissolved, and the government now had to negotiate about returning internees to Latin America using weak, hastily-written wartime agreements, for the United States had not exacted initial guarantees defining the deportees' postwar fate. For the most part, the Central American and Caribbean countries that had deported enemy aliens to the United States had placed few restrictions on their disposition. Mexico, Colombia and Ecuador had required specific guarantees before releasing enemy aliens to the United States. Peru, Ecuador and El Salvador wanted jurisdiction over internees in order to obtain the return of some German deportees, for many Germans in Latin America, unlike the Japanese, had acquired economic and political influence as well as greater social acceptance. Peru had sought no firm agreement from the United States concerning final destination and wanted to restrict the return of Japanese (but not German) internees. The United States wanted a consistent policy for the Latin American internees and gave Peru the choice of accepting all non-dangerous internees or leaving deportation control to the United States. So negotiations dragged on for the return to Peru of Peruvian Japanese.

Meanwhile, the internees used litigation to block deportation to Axis states. Some German internees filed habeas corpus petitions challenging their detention by the United States, claiming that they were not alien enemies as defined by the Alien Enemy Act of 1798, because they were not natives or citizens of an enemy country. In January 1946, this effort failed when a federal district court ruled that the Latin American internees were "alien enemies" who could legally be detained.<sup>28</sup> After this decision, 513 Japanese (over 90% from Peru), 897 Germans and 37 Italians from Latin America in United States internment camps were granted hearings pending deportation to Axis countries.<sup>29</sup> The hearings were a formality leading inevitably to deportation to Axis countries, although most of the remaining Latin American Japanese wished to return to Peru. Voluntary repatriation continued into 1946, with at least 130 Peruvian Japanese returning to Japan by June.<sup>30</sup>

The final destiny of the Latin American Japanese was placed in the hands of the Justice Department after the State Department concluded that insufficient evidence existed to call the remaining Japanese internees dangerous to the Western Hemisphere.<sup>31</sup> The State Department, although willing to proceed with deportations to Japan, hoped the Justice Department would stop deportation proceedings against Peruvian Japanese with families in Peru.<sup>32</sup> The process moved very slowly for those who wanted to remain in the United States or return to Peru. Two Peruvian Japanese, Eigo and Elsa Kudo, remembered their anxious waiting period:

There were several hearings to persuade these poor internees to leave for Japan. We were one of those who asked, "Why are we illegal aliens when we were brought under armed MPs and processed by the immigration officers upon arrival in New Orleans?" ... Again and again they repeated, "You are illegal aliens because you have no passports nor visa..."<sup>33</sup>

In August 1946, Wayne Collins, an attorney who had often helped Issei and Nisei over the years, arranged for some Peruvian Japanese to be transferred from INS internment camps to a fresh produce processing plant in Seabrook, New Jersey, where Japanese Americans had worked during the exclusion from the West Coast. The internees welcomed Seabrook as an opportunity to escape camp life, restore traditional family life, and earn relatively decent wages while awaiting word of their ultimate fate; at the same time, it must be recognized that conditions at Seabrook were far less attractive than those of ordinary liberated life. Other internees were paroled from the INS camps under sponsorship of American citizens.

## Ickes...entertained a novel idea shared by other American officials in Peru and President Prado—to establish internment camps in Peru financed by the United States. ... But the American (U.S.) embassy in Peru vetoed the Peruvian camp idea, dis-trusting Peruvian officials' ability to intern dangerous individuals...

To some extent, returning internees to Peru was further complicated during 1946 by a nationalistic pro-Japan underground movement, the Aikoku Doshi-Kai, which sprang up in Peru and South America. Both Peruvian and American officials overestimated the movement's influence, but the United States accepted Peru's reluctance to bring Japanese deportees back into a country inflamed by anti-Japanese sentiment. Peru announced that it would allow only Peruvian citizens of Japanese descent and Japanese related to Peruvian citizens to return,<sup>34</sup> and from May to October 1946, only about 100 Japanese internees went back to Peru.<sup>35</sup> At the same time, almost 600 German nationals were returned to Latin America in the year 1945-46.<sup>36</sup>

At the beginning of 1947, 300 Peruvian Japanese remained in the United States, the majority at Seabrook. Those with family ties in Peru entertained hopes of returning home. Talks between the United States and Peru were stalemated during 1947; negotiations were renewed with the Peruvian government which had come to power in a coup in the winter of 1948-49, but it refused to accept any non-citizens.

In the spring of 1949, exasperated State Department officials concluded that the only solution to the Peruvian Japanese internment problem was to give internees the status of "permanent legally-admitted immigrants" who could remain in the United States.<sup>37</sup> Finally, in July 1952, the remaining Japanese Peruvian internees, having resided in the United States for seven years or more, petitioned the Board of Immigration Appeals to reopen hearings to suspend deportation orders, and Congress approved the deportation suspensions in 1953. The wartime deportation and internment program was finally at an end. But, for some, the emotional trauma of the program was endless. Peruvian deportee Ginzo Muroto stated: "Some of the people from Peru who were interned with me were separated from their families for many years. In a few cases, the broken families were never reunited."<sup>38</sup>

Historical documents concerning the ethnic Japanese in Latin America are, of course, housed in distant archives, and the Commission has not researched that body of material. Although the need for this extensive, disruptive program has not been definitively reviewed by the Commission, John Emmerson, a well-informed American diplomat in Peru during the program, wrote more than 30 years later: "During my period of service in the embassy, we found no reliable evidence of planned or contemplated acts of sabotage, subversion, or espionage."<sup>39</sup> Whatever justification is offered for this treatment of enemy aliens, many Latin American Japanese never saw their homes again after remaining for many years in a kind of legal no-man's-land. Their history is one of the strange, unhappy, largely forgotten stories of World War II.

## Footnotes: Latin Americans

1. Edward N. Barnhart, "Japanese Internees from Peru," *Pacific Historical Review*, vol. 31, no. 2 May 1962, pp. 169-78.
2. U.S. Department of Justice, *Annual Reports for Fiscal Years 1943-46* (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 1944-47) (CWRIC 14641).
3. C. Harvey Gardner, *Pawns in a Triangle of Hate: The Peruvian Japanese and the United States* (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1981), p. 4.
4. Stephan Thernstrom, ed., *Harvard Encyclopedia of American Ethnic Groups* (Cambridge and London: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1980), p. 563.
5. Gardner, *Pawns*, p. 6.
6. U.S. Department of State, *The Japanese in Peru*, report attributed to John K. Emmerson, 1943. NARS. RG 59 (CWRIC 29645-99), p. 45.
7. John K. Emmerson, *The Japanese Thread* (New York: Holt, Rinehart & Winston, 1978), p. 131.
8. Barnhart, "Japanese Internees," p. 172.
9. Emmerson, *Japanese Thread*, p. 126.
10. Barnhart, "Japanese Internees," p. 172.
11. *Idem*.
12. Telegram, U.S. Department of State to U.S. Ambassador to Panama, Dec. 12, 1941. NARS. RG 59 (CWRIC 6944).
13. Gardner *Pawns*, p. 14; telegram, U.S. Embassy in Panama to Secretary of State, May 18, 1942. NARS. RG 59 (CWRIC 6944).
14. Gardner, *Pawns*, pp. 20-21.
15. *Idem*, p. 25.
16. *Idem*, p. 22; Emmerson, *Japanese Thread*, p. 140.
17. Attorney General Francis Biddle and Under Secretary of State Sumner Welles had previously agreed that interning citizens of Latin American states among the internees brought from Panama and Costa Rica posed no legal problem, (Gardner, *Pawns*, pp. 21-24.)
18. *Idem*, pp. 25-26.
19. *Idem*, p. 58.
20. *Idem*, p. 29.
21. Barnhart, "Japanese Internees," p. 173.
22. Emmerson, *Japanese Thread*, p. 143.
23. Gardner, *Pawns*, pp. 31, 48.
24. *Idem*, p. 56.
25. *Idem*, p. 67.
26. A September 8, 1942, State Department memorandum shows that State was concerned whether any effort should be made to influence Peru to breach the international law provisions, and that after a decision was made on this issue, "then a decision can be reached as to whether the United States will undertake the wholesale removal of all Japanese from Peru over a period of time." Memorandum, Hanley, September 8, 1942. NARS. RG 59 (CWRIC 6943).
27. Letter, Emmerson to U.S. Ambassador to Peru, April 18, 1942. NARS. RG 59 (CWRIC 5648-49).
28. Testimony, Arthur Shiner Yakabi, New York, Nov. 23, 1981, p. 33.
29. Emmerson, *Japanese Thread*, p. 147.
30. Gardner, *Pawns*, p. 17.
31. *Idem*, p. 84.
32. *Idem*, pp. 88-107.
33. 3 CFR, 1943-1948 Comp., p. 57.
34. Emmerson, *Japanese Thread*, p. 149.
35. Gardner, *Pawns*, p. 114.
36. *Idem*, p. 124.
37. Barnhart, "Japanese Internees," p. 174.
38. Gardner, *Pawns*, p. 133; one German internee, von Heymann, won a reversal in the Second Circuit Court of Appeals, *United States vs. Watkins*, 159 F.2d 650 (2d Cir. 1947).
39. Gardner, *Pawns*, p. 134.
40. *Idem*, p. 130.
41. Barnhart, "Japanese Internees," pp. 174-75.
42. Gardner, *Pawns*, pp. 142-43.
43. Written Testimony, Eigo and Elsa Kudo, Chicago, Sept. 22, 1981.
44. Barnhart, "Japanese Internees," p. 174.
45. Gardner, *Pawns*, pp. 153-57.
46. Barnhart, "Japanese Internees," p. 174.
47. Gardner, *Pawns*, p. 168-68.
48. Testimony, Ginzo Muroto, New York, Nov. 23, 1981, p. 32.
49. Emmerson, *Japanese Thread*, p. 148.

### LEGEND ON ABBREVIATIONS

The thousands of documents and secondary sources assembled by the Commission required an internal locator system indicated by "CWRIC" followed by a page number. Other abbreviations include:

**Bancroft Library:** UC Berkeley; collection on Japanese American evacuation and resettlement. To locate individual documents see catalog of this material by Edward N. Barnhart (Berkeley: University of California General Library, 1958).

**DOJ:** Department of Justice records, Washington, DC; subsequent numbers indicate DOJ files.

**FBI:** Federal Bureau of Investigation records, Washington, DC.

**FDRL:** Franklin Delano Roosevelt Library, Hyde Park, NY.

**HR:** U.S. House of Representatives reports.

**LC:** Library of Congress, Washington, DC, all divisions.

**CFR:** Not explained.

**NARS. RG:** National Archives and Records Service, Washington, DC; Record Group.

**Sterling Library:** Yale University, New Haven, CT; Henry L. Stimson Papers, Manuscript Group No. 465.



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## LOSSES

Continued from Page 1

Under the Japanese American Evacuation Claims Act of 1948, ethnic Japanese who suffered real and personal property losses as a result of exclusion and detention were allowed to claim compensation for these losses.

Between 1948 and 1968, 26,568 claims were filed with the Dept. of Justice totaling \$148 million, and the U.S. government paid out about

\$37 million in awards or settlements.

### 1950 Awards Analyzed

"There is good reason to believe that neither of these figures—\$148 million in claims and \$37 million in awards—represents the 'true losses' of ethnic Japanese as a result of exclusion," states the ICF analysis.

The study points out that certain types of claims were specifically excluded, many cases were settled for a fraction of the claim and most claims were probably settled for a

great deal less than the reasonable value of the loss. Claims were also paid—throughout the 1950s—in 1950s dollars for losses incurred in the 1940s. No account was taken of inflation or interest foregone.

"For these reasons, then, it appears virtually certain that the true losses suffered by the ethnic Japanese community exceeded the \$37 million paid in awards," ICF's study says.

"Whether or not the \$148 million figure represents an overestimate or an underestimate is clear," the study observes. But it is possible that some people did not file because their claims were small; some may have been unaware; and some may have not filed because of insufficient written documentation for otherwise legitimate claims.

"These factors suggest that \$148 million may have been an underestimate of the true loss of property," the study says, although one could argue that in any claim situation, there is an incentive to increase the value of the loss claimed. ICF's study estimates property losses through reevaluation of available claims files and summary sheets and adjudication reports of the Justice Department and extrapolates from them to the entire universe of excluded ethnic Japanese.

### Net Property Losses

The study estimates that the total property loss net of compensation received under the Japanese American Evacuation Claims Act ranges:

- (1) from \$41 million to \$206 million in 1945 dollars;
- (2) from \$221 million to \$1.1 billion, adjusting to 1983 dollars to account for inflation alone;
- (3) from \$335 million to \$1.7 billion, adjusted to account for the corporate bond rate;
- (4) from \$680 million to \$3.4 billion, applying the 3% real interest method plus inflation.

The study commissioned by CWRIC was conducted by ICF between February and May, 1983. The analysis discusses estimates of economic losses only and does not deal with compensation or recommendations.

Copies of the study (a 100-page document) are available for review at the CWRIC office, Suite 2020, 726 Jackson Pl. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20506.

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## 11 POINTS

Continued from Page 1

those who were convicted of violating the statutes imposing curfew and orders to report to assembly centers; and that the Justice Dept. review other wartime convictions of ethnic Japanese and recommend to the President that he also pardon those whose offenses were due to refusing to accept discrimination based on race or ethnicity. Both are made without prejudice to current cases before the courts.

(3) That Congress direct the Executive agencies to review cases affecting "all ethnic Japanese excluded or detained during WW2 without regard to the explicit legal authority under which the government acted" and those who may seek restitution of positions, status or entitlements lost in whole or part.

For example, the CWRIC pointed out the War Dept. issued less-than-honorable ("blue") discharges to Nisei GIs during WW2 over which disputes remain. And any complaints of inequity due to wartime detention before the Social Security office be resolved.

### Recommendation #4

(4) That Congress "demonstrate official recognition of the injustice" done to U.S. citizens and resident aliens of Japanese ancestry during WW2 and "recognize the nation's need to make redress for these events, by appropriating monies to establish a special foundation".

(5) With the exception of Rep. Dan Lungren, the Commissioners "recommend that Congress establish a fund which will provide personal redress to those who were excluded.... Appropriations of \$1.5 billion should be made to the fund over a reasonable period to be determined by Congress. This fund

should be used, first, to provide a one-time per capita compensatory payment of \$20,000 to each of the approximately 60,000 surviving persons excluded from their places of residence pursuant to E.O. 9066.

"The burden should be on the government to locate survivors, without requiring any application for payment, and payments should be made to the oldest survivors first. After per capita payments, the remainder of the fund should be used for the public educational purposes discussed in Recommendation 4 as well as for the general welfare of the Japanese American community. This should be accomplished by grants for purposes such as aid to the elderly and scholarships for education, weighing, where appropriate, the effect on the exclusion and detention on the descendants of those who were detained. Individual payments in compensation for loss or damage should not be made".

Commissioner Bill Marutani formally renounced any monetary recompense for himself either direct or indirect.

All CWRIC commissioners, however, believe a trust fund for educational and humanitarian purposes related to the wartime events as appropriate and all agree "that no fund would be sufficient to make whole again the lives damaged by the exclusion and detention".

Such a fund addresses an injustice suffered by the entire group as distinguished from individual deprivations, agreed the commissioners. It should sponsor research/educational activities on the causes and circumstances of this or similar events so that the subject of this inquiry will be remembered.

Preparing and distributing the Commission's findings to textbook

publishers, educators and libraries was suggested as one activity.

To administer the fund for personal redress, it was recommended that a board, whose majority members are Americans of Japanese ancestry, be appointed by the

Continued on Page 12

## Deaths

**Ken Asamoto, 55**, a Nikkei leader in the Cleveland community, died June 12. He headed the firm, Asamoto-Shenberger & Associates, structural engineers. Surviving are w Hazel, s Craig, Keith, d Joyce and Dianne.

**Tom Kitayama Jr, 34**, Union City, Ca., and son of Union City Mayor Tom Kitayama, was killed June 9 in a hang-glider accident at Dunlap, halfway between Fresno and Kings Canyon National Park. County coroner reported his glider collapsed upon impact mid-air with other glider and he was unable to fully open his parachute, thus falling 300 feet to his death. A top graduate from Logan High School in Union City, he was active in student government and on the varsity swim team. He received his degree in horticulture from UC Davis. He is survived by his parents and grandparents, br David, Dennis, sis Monica and Barbara Uhlig.

**Harry Korematsu, 66**, president of Stonehurst & Wholesale Produce Inc., San Mateo, died June 10. The pioneer flower grower-shipper is survived by w Mari, s Gary, d Sharon Yee, br Hiroshi, Fred and Joe.

**Herbert V. Nicholson, 91**, Quaker missionary who taught in Japan (1915-1940), befriended and served the Japanese community during and after WW2, died June 16. A Pasadena (Ca.) resident since 1941, his dedication to promote the welfare of persons of Japanese ancestry in both the U.S. and Japan was cited by JACL in 1963. His two books, "Treasure in Earthen Vessels" (out-of-print) and "Comfort All Who Mourn" (\$5.95), are autobiographical accounts.

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## Fowler CLers keep busy in spring

FOWLER, Ca.—Activity at the community-chapter level for JACLers here steps up just before the summer harvest. To wit:

- 1—Chapter-sponsored community picnic at Woodward Park attracted 150 people.
- 2—Judge Tony Ishii of the Selma-Parlier court was guest speaker at the annual chapter dinner. He encouraged Sansei to become involved.
- 3—Floyd Yosh Honda, a 1930 JACL Convention delegate, led the 15 Fowler members who were celebrating at the recent Fresno ALL-JACL 60th anniversary dinner. Honda is the senior member of the local chapter.
- 4—Chapter president George Hashimoto represented the community at the Nisei Memorial Day services at Roeding Park.
- 5—Chapter scholarships were awarded June 9 during the Fowler High commencement.

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# QUESTIONS

Continued from Page 1

witnesses, (k) right to call favorable witnesses, (l) right to legal counsel  
**Article VII:** (m) right to trial by jury  
**Article VIII:** (n) right to reasonable bail, (o) freedom from cruel and unusual punishment  
**Further constitutional guarantees abridged were:** (p) right against involuntary servitude, (q) right to equal protection under the law, (r) right to vote, (s), right to habeas corpus.

## Q. What are the bases for your claim?

Defamation of character, false eviction, false imprisonment, loss of life and health due to government actions, emotional and psychological damages, damage to ethnic identity, disruption of family.

## Q. What do you hope to gain? What are your goals?

Compensation of sufficient magnitude to create a public awareness of the violations of constitutional rights during 1942-1946, and a greater awareness of the need for vigilance to prevent similar unconstitutional conduct in the future.

## Q. Didn't the Supreme Court rule that the Government's actions were constitutional?

Yes, the United States Supreme Court did in the *Hirabayashi*, *Yasui*, *Korematsu*, and key portions of the *Endo* decisions. But we hold that these decisions were wrong—morally and legally—and need to be overturned. The Court reflected the prejudices of the times and based its decisions on rumors, stereotypes, and speculation. There was no factual evidence to support its decisions.

**NOTE:** At hearings of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians held in Los Angeles in Aug. 1981, Commissioner Arthur Goldberg, a former Supreme Court Justice, stated "A great deal (has been) made over the court's rulings. Well, the Supreme Court has been wrong in the past, as cited the *Dred Scott* decision which was so wrong that it brought on the Civil War and was eventually corrected

by the Fourteenth Amendment. Furthermore ... the essential basis of *Korematsu* was overruled by the Supreme Court decision in *Bolling v. Sharpe* which said that the Fifth Amendment does contain, although not expressly stated, an equal protection clause."

## Q. Weren't your losses already compensated?

The Japanese American Claims Act of 1948 compensated only a small and inadequate fraction of the property losses alone. Even though there was no inflation corrections and no interest paid, loss of freedom, loss of income, death, injuries, loss of increased land values, mental suffering, etc., were not covered. The Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco estimated actual tangible property losses to be at least \$400 million in 1942. Even at 3% interest per year, property losses would have totaled \$538 million by 1952 when the claims were settled. However, the government placed an unreasonable burden of proof on most of the claimants, who received a total of \$34 million, which amounted to 8½% of the actual property losses.

## Q. Considering the treacherous sneak attack on Pearl Harbor by the Japanese, wasn't the Government justified in locking up the Japanese?

As Americans, we were not responsible in any way for the acts of the government of Japan. We had absolutely nothing at all to do with the bombing of Pearl Harbor or any other acts by the military forces of Japan. By the logic of the question, one could then ask, are Americans of German ancestry to be held accountable for the act of Nazi Germany? Or, Americans of Italian ancestry for the acts of the Italian government during WWII?

Remember too, that Pearl Harbor is located in Hawaii, yet Americans of Japanese ancestry in Hawaii were not locked up. To do so would have brought a halt to the economy of Hawaii because Americans of Japanese ancestry in Hawaii constitute a major portion of the working force there.

**Q. Everyone suffered and lost during the war, so why should your case be considered different?**  
 We made the same sacrifices that other Americans made during the war, including giving our lives for this country on the battlefield. But no other group of Americans suffered eviction and false imprisonment because of ancestry. Our losses were not the result of enemy action, but the actions of the American government against American citizens.

**Q. Are you saying that the incarceration of Japanese Americans is similar to the Jewish experience in the Nazi concentration camps?**  
 Obviously there are differences: the camps in Germany were death camps, while in America they were detention camps. However, there are similarities: barbed wire compounds with armed guards, innocent prisoners of our own country; isolated because of ancestry; imprisoned without charges and held without due process of law

**Q. Wasn't it a military necessity because of the dangers of espionage and sabotage?**  
 If there were any such dangers, they did not come from Japanese Americans. No person of Japanese ancestry was ever charged with or convicted of espionage or sabotage. But numerous Caucasians were charged and convicted as agents for Japan.

The fact that the Japanese American population was no threat was fully documented by the FBI, Navy Intelligence,

and a special investigatory report ordered by the President. Furthermore, it was physically impossible for much of the Japanese American population to have engaged in espionage or sabotage—they were too young, too old, or too visible.

If military necessity dictated eviction and detention, why weren't those of Japanese ancestry in Hawaii, 3,000 miles nearer Japan and in an active theater of war, also detained?

**Q. Wasn't it just an unfortunate necessity because there was a threat of invasion and there was no time to determine who was loyal and disloyal?**  
 If there was an actual threat of invasion, martial law could have been declared and the restrictions applied to everyone equally, as was the case in Hawaii. But martial law was not declared on the West Coast because our Government and the military knew that Japan was incapable of landing an invasion force on the continental United States, especially after June 1942 (the Battle of Midway) when the Japanese fleet was virtually destroyed.

The question of who was dangerous was already determined through FBI and Navy Intelligence files. Anyone suspected of the crimes of espionage or sabotage could have been charged and brought to trial in the civil courts which were in full operation.

**Q. Wasn't it a perfectly understandable wartime lapse caused by panic and hysteria?**  
 The movement to exclude Japanese Americans from the West Coast had been going on for nearly 50 years. The war was only a convenient pretext seized upon to accomplish that goal. The public did not suddenly and spontaneously go berserk; instead, a carefully calculated and organized hate campaign started to achieve results. Furthermore, panic and hysteria should never justify the abrogation of constitutional guarantees.

**Q. Weren't most of the adults enemy aliens and therefore subject to summary detention during a war?**  
 The so-called "enemy aliens" were permanent residents who were legally in the United States and fully entitled to constitutional protection of the Bill of Rights. They were "aliens"

only because they were prohibited by law from becoming naturalized citizens.

**NOTE:** Commissioner Goldberg reminded those attending hearings of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians in Los Angeles that the Supreme Court has construed that the protection of the Constitution extends to resident aliens as well as citizens.

Presidential Proclamation 2525, which was based on a 1798 statute, did permit the apprehension of certain "enemy aliens", but only those individuals against whom there was specific evidence to show they were dangerous to the safety of the United States, and all such individuals had the right to a hearing in a court of law to determine if there was sufficient cause for removal or detention. Only those persons arrested under individual warrants by the FBI and placed in Department of Justice internment camps fell into this category—and they comprised just 5% of the total number of Japanese aliens who were incarcerated. Japanese nationals could have been detained as "prisoners of war" under the provisions of the Geneva Convention of 1929, and many of the detainees demanded POW status, but the Government refused to recognize them as POWs because many of the Geneva Convention rules would have been violated. Also, it should be noted that German and Italian "enemy aliens"—who incidentally, were free to become United States citizens—were not similarly imprisoned.

**Q. Weren't most of the citizens who were incarcerated children who had to accompany enemy alien parents?**  
 Under our legal system, children are not locked up just because their parents are imprisoned. The basic rights of United States citizens cannot be deprived due to age: the Constitution protects children as well as adults. The Government did not give the children, nor their parents, any choice in the matter. All persons of Japanese ancestry were ordered incarcerated, including orphans and other children with non-Japanese guardians, foster parents, or adoptive parents. The military arbitrarily decided that a person with as little as 1/16 Japanese "blood" was con-

demned to be evicted and incarcerated. This, by the way, is twice as harsh as Hitler's formula for determining those of the Jewish faith.

**Q. Weren't you placed in these camps for your own protection against mob violence?**  
 In a case of mob violence, the law-breakers should be locked up—not their innocent intended victims. There was no basis for believing that the Japanese American population was in grave danger. There were just 28 isolated cases of assault against Japanese Americans on the West Coast during the first months of the war, and only one was committed by a white person. The general pub-

lic may have been prejudiced, but they were law-abiding people. Any small need for security could have been readily handled by the local police and sheriff departments.

The physical arrangements of the camps prove that the purpose was detention—not protection. Despite being in the middle of isolated deserts with no others around, the camps were surrounded by barbed wire fences with the tops tilted inward to keep the prisoners in; the guards in the watchtowers had their weapons pointed INTO the camps, and the searchlights were directed INSIDE the camps.

Continued on Page 10



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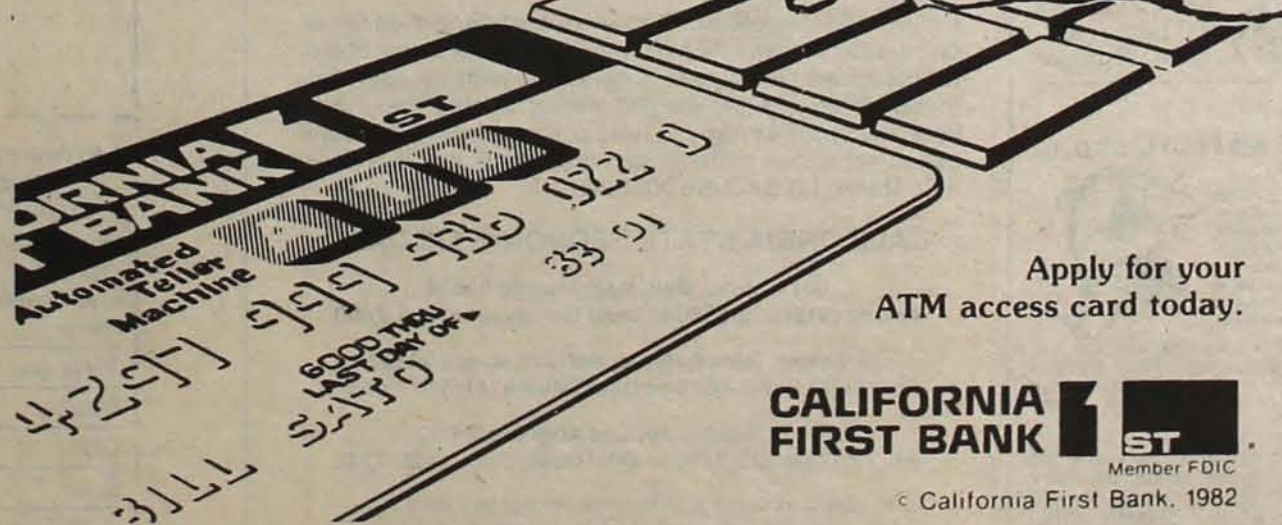
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## QUESTIONS

Continued from Page 9

**Q. Weren't these camps just relocation centers to give you temporary shelter until you could find new homes? Weren't you not only free to leave, but encouraged to do so?**

Detainees were explicitly prohibited from leaving under Civilian Restrictive Order 1 and Public Proclamation 8 issued by General John L. DeWitt (Commander of the Western Defense Command), and Public Proclamation WD-1 issued by Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson. Anyone leaving without permission was shot, as evidenced by the eight inmates killed by guards.

Another illustration of the fact that people were confined against their will is Mitsuye Endo's case. Upon finding herself involuntarily detained, she petitioned for a writ of habeas corpus in July 1942, but her plea for release was denied by the federal courts for almost three years. Temporary work of harvesting crops or education furloughs under strict parole conditions were granted to approximately 33% of the detainees at one time or another, but the majority of detainees were not actually "free" and "encouraged" to leave until after January 1945 when the camps began to close down.

**Q. Considering all the present problems which need to be worked on, isn't it better to forgive and forget the past and concentrate on the present and future?**

Much of the present problems affecting our youth and elderly are the direct result of injustices suffered in the past. We are inextricably linked to all that has happened before, and cannot forget unresolved grievances. As long as we have not received personal redress, our reputations are tainted, and unfortunately, many Americans still believe that we were disloyal and that the Government was justified in its actions.

**Q. Aren't you being materialistic and greedy? What happened to the pride of the Japanese people?**

We are only asking for partial compensation for actual losses. Considering the huge amount of losses, no one will make a profit. We ask for no more, and undoubtedly a great deal less, than what any other American would demand under similar circumstances. Reluctance to seek what is due constitutes false pride. True pride requires a full redress of justified grievances.

**Q. Isn't it true that money cannot restore lost freedom? By placing a price tag on freedom, aren't you cheapening what is priceless?**

The basis of American jurisprudence is founded upon the principle of monetary redress for lost freedom. Because freedom is considered so precious, false imprisonment has been compensated with large sums of money: for example, a Washington, D.C. court recently awarded \$10,000 per person

in damages to the 1,318 Vietnam peace demonstrators for just two to three days of false imprisonment in 1971. Refusing to arrive at an estimate is a functional equivalent of assessing the damages at zero.

**Q. Victims of Nazi persecution are receiving compensation are they not?**

The United States Government was instrumental in pressuring West Germany to pay reparations. West Germany has paid to date \$25 billion and is yet to pay another \$20 billion. Furthermore, the United States is urging Poland, the poorest of the East bloc nations, to pay a similar type of restitution to Jews for their experiences in Polish camps during WWII.

**Q. Japanese Americans have a high income, so do you really need the money?**

Present average income is not relevant to the issue. Our case is not based on need, and we are not asking for welfare. Right to just compensation for wrongs inflicted does not depend upon whether the victim happens to be rich or poor.

**Q. Would you be satisfied with an official statement admitting error and tendering an apology?**

We already secured such statements many times over. Each time one of the bills for partial redress passed, there were admissions of error and expressions of regret: in 1948, when the property loss claims bill was passed, in 1971 when the Emergency Detention Act was repealed, in 1972 when the Social Security retirement credit bill was passed, in 1976 when Executive Order 9066 was rescinded, and in 1978 when the federal employees retirement credit bill was enacted. What we need now is tangible compensation. The amount needs to be sufficient enough in order to

leave a lasting impression on the Government that constitutional rights cannot be violated so cheaply. Also, we need to find some means of rectifying the Supreme Court decisions in the Hirabayashi, Yasui, Korematsu and Endo cases.

**Q. Why should we have to pay for the wrong committed by our parents' generation? We had nothing to do with incarcerating Japanese American.**

We must remember that "we" also includes Americans of Japanese ancestry. As citizens of America, ALL of us are responsible for the acts of our Government. As a nation and as individuals, we are the products of the past. As citizens, we inherit the responsibilities, debts, etc., as well as benefits, passed on to us by our ancestors.

**Q. Wouldn't it be better to fund community projects rather than to give the money to individuals who will squander it in a short time?**

Such a concept for a lasting trust fund is already incorporated in the redress proposal. More importantly, we must remember that it was individuals who suffered, and each individual has a right to redress. We cannot legitimately take that right away. Individuals may donate their share to a community trust fund, but that choice has to be left to each individual. We are not limiting ourselves to one or the other—we are working for both individual and community trust fund payments.

**Q. Why should those who were children at the time receive redress?**

Children's constitutional rights were violated too. Children have a right to redress for false imprisonment, defamation of character, and emotional damages. Children were burdened with the life-long stigma of hav-

ing spent their childhood in captivity. One part of an entire generation of Japanese Americans spent its most formative years in prison camps and grew up with the stigma of having been prisoners in their own country.

In the camps, family structures disintegrated; children were deprived of normal parental nurturing and guidance; children grew up without a sense of security usually provided by parents. The schools were sub-standard, and the Government stripped children of their self-identity by prohibiting or discouraging Japanese language, religion, culture, and sports.

**Q. Why should heirs receive payment? If you include heirs, would not that set a precedent for others, like Blacks and Native Americans, to make claims for ancestral grievances?**

The Government is not relieved of the responsibility of making amends just because the victim died. Children and family members of detainees suffered the consequences of lost property, lost income, lost health, ruined reputations, and psychological damage long after the camps closed. No other group of American citizens suffered such a massive denial of constitutional rights in existence at the time. Ours is a unique case in the constitutional history of this country. Blacks were brought here under a free enterprise system (i.e., not by Government order), and Native Americans suffered a series of broken treaties between nations. This is not to say that the Blacks and Native Americans did not suffer immensely, but that only in the case of the Japanese Americans was there a total abrogation of constitutional guarantees inflicted against a single

group of citizens solely on the basis of race.

**Q. Weren't there numerous disloyal people, like those who refused the loyalty oath, resisted the draft, renounced their citizenship, and expatriated to Japan? Why should they be redressed?**

There were very good legal, moral, and psychological reasons for resisting the Government. Each act of resistance was a protest against injustice. The loyalty oath was imposed after they had been imprisoned for nearly a year; the draft was instituted while they and their families were still incarcerated and American citizenship had proved to be worthless. The Government later recognized the mitigating circumstances surrounding these cases, and granted full pardons to the draft resisters and restored citizenship to the renunciants.

**Q. Why redress now, after 39 years? Why so long a wait?**

The time lag is an indication of the severity of emotional damage incurred. The wounds have to be at least partially healed before the victims can confront the offender. Also, it is not quite true that we simply waited. Efforts were made in the past and partial relief obtained. Examples of past actions are:

- 1942-44 court challenges;
- 1945-52 campaign to redeem property losses;
- 1968-71 campaign to repeal

the Emergency Detention Act

- 1969-72 effort to gain Social Security retirement credit
- 1975-76 drive to rescind Executive Order 9066;
- 1975-78 effort to secure retirement credit for federal employees.

**Q. Weren't the Americans in Japan incarcerated?**

The question poses an incorrect analogy. We are talking about people who were incarcerated en masse by their own government, such as the German citizens of Jewish faith who were locked up by their own government, Germany.

**Q. How much support do you expect from the American public?**

We fully expect some bitter opposition. We believe, however, that there will be much more support than many Japanese Americans believe. Americans are not afraid to admit to the mistakes of their country.

**Q. Who do you represent? Aren't there many Japanese Americans who oppose redress?**

Based on five separate surveys conducted throughout the United States, we represent the views of the vast majority of Japanese Americans. Some form of redress was favored by 94% of the respondents, and direct payment to individuals was desired by 83%.

Continued on Page 11

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**SUMMARY (Since Dec. 1, 1982)**  
Active (previous total) 1,398  
Total this report 51  
Current total 1,449

**MAY 31-JUN 3, 1983 (51)**  
Berkeley: 31-Tad Hirota\*.  
Chicago: 3-George Morikawa, 8-Shuichi  
Ogawa.  
Dayton: 14-Major Frank A Titus\*.  
Detroit: 13-Norman N Hinatsu, 24-  
Walter H Miyao.  
Downtown Los Angeles: 35-George T  
Aratani\*, 33-Tats Kushiida, 29-George  
K Sayano, 2-Timothy Takata.  
East Los Angeles: 3-John Nishizu\*.  
Gardena Valley: 3-Kazumi Watanabe.  
Marina: 3-Ronald Wakabayashi.  
Mile-High: 25-Samuel Kumagai.  
New York: 8-Fujio Saito.  
Orange County: 29-Minoru Nitta, 29-  
Mitsuo Nitta, 3-Alyce H Kikawa, 29-Dr  
Leo Nakayama.  
Pacific/Long Beach: 27-Dr Itaru  
Ishida, 3-Harold S Kobata.  
Pan Asian: 3-Aileen Yayoi Kasai.  
Portland: 29-John M Hada.  
Puyallup Valley: 23-Toshio Tsuboi.  
Sacramento: 27-George I Matsuoaka, 13-  
Hiroshi Nishikawa, 26-Tom Sato, 3-  
Sam T Yamamoto.  
Saint Louis: 19-William H Eto, 23-Paul  
Maruyama.  
San Fernando Valley: 3-James Oda\*, 3-  
Dr Mary S Oda, 3-Don N Yamaoka\*\*.  
San Francisco: 3-Tsugiko Holdaway, 3-  
Robert Ishii\*, 3-Shigeo Miyamoto, 3-  
Tokie Nerio, 2-Yone Satoda.  
San Gabriel Valley: 3-Moon K Noh.  
Santa Barbara: 28-Mike M Hide.  
Seattle: 3-Tsuneo Cappy Harada\*, 3-  
Saige Shiomu.  
Selanoco: 3-Frank M Nakamura.  
Sequoia: 4-Dr Theodore T Abe, 23-  
Mamoru H Fukuma, 14-James S  
Izumi, 3-James M Momii\*.  
Stockton: 25-Arthur K Nakashima.  
Venice-Culver: 3-Victor M Carter\*.  
West Los Angeles: 28-Ben M Nishimoto,  
3-Kiyoko Tatsui.

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13-Tad Hirota (Ber), 11-Major Frank  
A Titus (Day), 3-George T Aratani  
(Dnt), 3-John Nishizu (ELA), 3-Samuel  
Kumagai (MHi), 3-James Oda (SFV),  
3-Dr Mary S Oda (SFV), 3-Robert Ishii  
(SF), 3-Tsuneo Cappy Harada (Set), 3-  
James M Momii (Seq), 3-Victor M  
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## 11 POINTS

Continued from Page 8

President and confirmed by the Senate. Compensation for such board members would be limited to expenses and the accepted governmental per diem.

## For the Aleuts

(Commission chair Joan Bernstein, with respect to remedies for

## • Keeping track

Here is a sampling of opinions of the CWRIC recommendations as reported in the Nation's press. Readers are encouraged to turn in clippings, editorials or letters in print to the PC in the weeks to come.

John J. McCloy, then Asst. Secretary of War, of New York was "shocked" by the recommendations and called for "an investigation of the investigation". He denied the action was intermittent but a "justifiable and prudent... relocation". He also appeared on PBS's McNeil-Lehrer report that evening with Bernstein, Lungren and Thomas Kometani, New York JACL president.

Mas Fukai, Gardena city councilman: "The history books will show what happened. And my grandchildren will now grow up in the mainstream of America without being stereotyped as enemies during time of war."

Eunice Sato, Long Beach city councilwoman said she prefers the government establish a foundation "to keep the matter of human relations up front in the public's eye so that it will never be forgotten".

Dr. John Kashiwabara, Long Beach Board of Education member: "As for restitution, I do not feel elation... It is a tremendous drain on the national treasury. There are pros and cons to this..."

Harry Honda, (in the Long Beach Press Telegram): "Internment should never happen again. Making restitution might serve as a reminder."

the Aleuts, did not participate in making recommendations because of a potential conflict of interest involving representation by the law firm of which she is a member.)

The recommendations "chosen to recognize fundamental justice" for Aleuts as perceived by the Commission are:

(1) Again Rep. Lungren dissenting, that Congress establish a \$5 million fund—the principal and interest to be spent for community and individual purposes as compensation for losses and injuries as described in "Personal Justice Denied";

(2) Lungren still dissenting, that direct payment of \$5,000 each be made to the few hundred surviving Aleuts evacuated from the Aleutian or Pribilof islands during WW2;

(3) That a relevant government agency rebuild and restore churches damaged or destroyed in the Aleutians during WW2 and Aleuts be given preference to perform such work;

(4) That Army Corps of Engineers receive sufficient funds to clear away debris that remains from WW2 in and around populated areas of the Aleutians.

(5) That Congress declare Attu "a native land" to be conveyed to the Aleuts through their native corporation provided it is able to negotiate an agreement allowing the Coast Guard to continue essential functions on the island. #

## Poston II reunion

SACRAMENTO, Ca.—The Poston II reunion will be held at Sacramento Inn, Aug. 19-21. For details, write Mrs. Joan Oki, P.O. Box 7118, Sacramento, CA 95826.

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F—Honshu/Taipei-Hong Kong-Bangkok ..... Oct. 1-22: Bill Sakurai  
G—Ura-Nihon/Shikoku-Kyushu ..... Oct. 1-22: Steve Yagi  
M—New England Foliage ..... Oct. 1-9: Toy Kanegai  
H—November Special ..... Nov. 1-15  
I—Special Holiday Tour ..... Dec. 22-Jan. 4: George Kanegai

## THE 1984 TRAVEL PROGRAM

A—New Zealand/Australia ..... Feb. 25-Mar. 15  
\*B—Cherry Blossom ..... Mar. 31-Apr. 21  
\*D—Summer Tour ..... June 16-July 7  
E—Tohoku Special ..... Aug. 4-25  
G—Autumn Tour ..... Sept. 29-Oct. 20  
\*H—Southern Honshu ..... Oct. 6-27

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## QUESTIONS

Continued from Page 10

Q. If you fail to obtain redress, will this campaign have been a total failure?

No, because the ultimate principle of the redress campaign is to help insure that what we experienced in 1942 does not ever happen to any other group of people in this country. Consequently, one of the objectives of our redress campaign is to educate the American public of our experiences and thereby to fortify the principles of the Bill of Rights and the Constitution. The media exposure gained by the hearings of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians has helped achieve this.

Another objective of our redress campaign is for Congress to "acknowledge that the actions taken against American citizens and legal residents of Japanese ancestry during 1942-46 were wrong and contrary to

the Constitution of the United States." We think it unlikely that Congress would deny this basic objective of redress, for such a denial would represent approval of the right of the Government to abrogate the Constitution during a national emergency. Then the rights of all Americans will be in jeopardy. #

## Sansei gymnast

WASHINGTON—Shaping up for the 1984 Olympics are three top gymnasts of the Rockville (Md.) Gym Club, who've won state honors since age 9. Cheryl Kaneshiro of Silver Spring, among the trio, is recognized as the world's best in uneven parallel bars by executing a double-twisting somersault dismount which few in the international women's competition can perform.

Cheryl, 13, has qualified for elite competition after six months training following a fractured ankle at the 1982 Junior National trials. #

AMERICAN HOLIDAY TRAVEL  
—1983 Travel Schedule—

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Tour Escort—Frank Hirata

## HOKKAIDO / TOHOKU TOUR—Oct. 6 (19 days)

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Tour Escort—Ernest Hida

## AUTUMN ONSSEN TOUR—Oct. 9 (20 days)

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